

# Phuket Gazette

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## IN THIS ISSUE

**NEWS:** Sea gypsies seek justice; West Sands in land probe.  
**Pages 2 & 3**

**INSIDE STORY:** The word on the streets about Patong's one-way system.  
**Pages 4 & 5**

**AROUND THE SOUTH:** Students slain in school attack, minibus massacre.  
**Page 8**

**AROUND THE NATION:** Booze ad ban gains support from the Cabinet.  
**Page 9**

**PEOPLE:** The woman behind Phuket juvenile judgment.  
**Pages 14 & 15**

**LIFESTYLE:** Dial in style; Can you take the heat?  
**Pages 20 & 21**

**AMBROSIA'S SECRETS:** The war of the sheets wages on.  
**Page 22**

**COMPUTERS:** Calling all techies: SIPA can help your visa woes.  
**Page 32**

**SPORT:** Meridien golf; Cricket and wickets; Darts; National youth games; Training triathletes for heat.  
**Pages 36 & 37**

**PROPERTY:** Gardening: Chain, chain, chain of hearts; Design: Going modern; Construction; Property Watch.  
**Pages 38-43**

## PLUS

**TRASH, QUEER NEWS 6; ACROSS THE BAY 7; AROUND THE ISLAND 10; DINING OUT 13; HAPPENINGS 16; MOTORING 19; TRAVEL 23; TAKE A BREAK 25 & 26; BOOKS, DIARY 27; EDITORIAL, LETTERS, FIRST PERSON 28 & 29; PATTAYA, TOWNINGS 30; HOROSCOPES 31; ON THE MOVE, BUSINESS, MONEY TALKS 34 & 35; CLASSIFIEDS 44-56.**

## Phuket prepares for water crisis

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET: Despite a spattering of some much welcome rain on the island on March 19, provincial authorities are preparing for water shortages as Phuket is expected to endure more hot weather before the annual rains, expected in May.

At a March 15 meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall chaired by Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima, Aroon Kersom, Chief of the Phuket Office of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (ODPM), said, "Phuket has a 50-million-baht reserve to use in case of an emergency, from which the Governor has already approved each district 500,000 baht to help people who do not have water.

"And if that is not enough, the Governor can approve more money within three days. Now we [the ODPM] have about 180 volunteers, 23 pumps and 50 water trucks on standby to help villagers without water."

K. Aroon added that his office has asked local authorities to monitor chlorine levels as water reserves fall.

"We want water to be safe for people to use in the dry season too," he said.

Phuket Provincial Irrigation Office (PPIO) Chief Isara Anukul explained to V/Gov Worapoj that Bang Wad reservoir is half full and rains expected to arrive around the end of April should see the island safely into the rainy season.

However, he added that the Southern Meteorological Center West Coast forecasts hot weather in Phuket for the rest of March, with the possibility of only light scattered rain, and that



**WATER WORRIES:** Royal Irrigation Department Director General Samart Chokkanapitak (right) inspects water reserves at Bang Wad reservoir.

the center forecasts the same for April, but with a higher chance of rain.

"Bang Wad Dam has a capacity of about 7.3 million cubic liters of water. Now there is 3.5 million cubic liters, which is about 48%.

"Phuket Provincial Water Supply and Phuket City Municipality Water Supply use about 1.1 million cubic liters a month, so we should not have problems for three months," he said.

However, if the rains do not arrive in time he said he would call in the Royal Rainmaking Project to artificially induce rainfall.

Phuket's water problems are attracting the attention of

some Bangkok officials. On March 16, Samart Chokkanapitak, the Director General of the Royal Irrigation Department, inspected the Bang Wad reservoir and had Phuket's recurring water shortage problems explained to him.

The Thai Third Naval Command is offering to supply water to people in drought-stricken coastal and island areas in Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi, Trang, Satun and Ranong provinces. A Royal Thai Navy boat will deliver the water to areas that need it.

People can request the free water from the Third Naval Command by calling 076-341598.

## Second incinerator 'not likely'

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Phuket will likely have to wait for a new government before getting a second incinerator to deal with the island's increasing volume of trash, Wisut Singkhachornworakul, Advisor to the Ministry of Interior, told a meeting at Phuket Provincial Hall.

During the meeting, held March 19 to discuss problems faced by the province, Phuket City Mayor Somjai Suwanasuppana said that the island desperately needs a new incinerator to supplement Phuket's sole furnace at Saphan Hin.

She proposed construction of a second 250-ton-per-day incinerator costing 1.3 billion baht.

K. Wisut said, "We recognize that Phuket has a big problem with garbage disposal and we will raise the issue with the Prime Minister. The present government is only temporary, however, so is unlikely to fund for such a large project."

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Maj Gen Decha Budnampetch raised the issue of Phuket's understaffed police force, explaining that the province was 500 officers understrength. K. Wisut replied that this was a common problem in southern provinces and that Pattani was short of 1,000 officers, though he added that he would mention the issue to the Prime Minister.

"Each province has its own problems. Ranong has problems with illegal immigrants, Nakhon Sri Thammarat has problems with storms and the three southern provinces [Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat] have many big problems. Phuket must wait, but it should be possible to get the 1.3 billion baht for the incinerator between 2008 and 2011," he said.



## License plate auction raises B11.62m

PHUKET CITY: The Phuket Provincial Transport Office (PPTO) and Pun-Neung Co Ltd's third car license plate number auction at Thavorn Grand Plaza hotel March 17 and 18 raised 11.62 million baht.

The money will be donated to the Road Safety Fund to help victims of road accidents and to support traffic safety education in schools.

The previous such auction in 2005 raised 13.76 million baht.

About 100 people joined in the auction for 301 "lucky" license plate numbers. The plates all featured the Thai letters the letters จ (gor-gai), which, according to the auctioneer, have good connotations with จ standing for *gao-nah* (progress) and ต (tor-tao) standing for *turb-to* (grow up).

The license plates feature a background of Promthep Cape.

Tassanee Noppharat of the PPTO said, "The license plate number that went for the highest bid was จ 1 which was bought for 712,000 baht by Tossaporn Thepabutr, husband of Phuket Provincial Administration Organization President Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr.

"Normally the most popular number is 9999, but this year it made only 400,000 baht," she added.

## BIS student art goes on show

KOH KAEW: British International School (BIS) will hold its IB Visual Art Exhibition from March 23 to April 30 at Royal Phuket Marina.

The exhibition of artworks by seven BIS International Baccalaureate (IB) art major students will include about 100 pieces, including sculptures, photographs, paintings and fashion visual artworks.

The exhibition will be on display from 9 am to 5 pm daily.

# Legal fracas over alleged swindling of dive boat

By Janyaporn Morel

BANGKOK: Two Norwegian operators of the 85-million-baht M/Y *Viking of The Orient* have sought help from the Department of Special Investigations (DSI) in Bangkok, claiming they were cheated when one of their Thai employees signed ownership of the vessel over to a local moneylender to cover an unpaid debt of seven million baht.

Norwegians Einar Meling, Managing Director of Viking Cruises (Thailand) Co Ltd, and his partner Lennart Holmgren on March 9 met with Pol Col Dutsadee Arayawut, who heads the DSI's Information Technology and Investigation Center in Bangkok.

The Scandinavians told Col Dutsadee they were cheated out of possession of the 35-meter vessel by their Thai partner, who they claim transferred ownership of the boat without their consent.

Asking that his name not be printed, Mr Meling's Bangkok-based lawyer told the *Gazette* that Viking Cruises had borrowed

seven million baht from a moneylender when the company ran into financial trouble during the 2003 Sars scare, which caused tourist arrivals to plummet.

Ownership of the boat was consigned to the creditor, whose name has not been released, in lieu of payment following an order from Phuket Provincial Court on August 15 last year.

However, the lawyer told the *Gazette* that although Mr Meling had signed the ownership transfer papers, the documents were in Thai-language only and that Mr Meling did so in good faith on the advice of his Thai partner.

He added that the Phuket Appeals Court in Bangkok on March 13 issued an order banning the creditor from transferring ownership to yet another party.

DSI Deputy Inspector Pol Capt Pitsanu Chimtrakul told the *Gazette* that he has forwarded Mr Meling's file to the DSI Director General's office and is awaiting orders.

"We have to determine whether or not

this case falls under the area of responsibility of the DSI, which was set up to investigate organized crime or criminal cases involving government officials.

"If it doesn't, we will have to give the case back to the local police. But it appears that these two Norwegians are not happy with the work of local police and that is why they contacted us for help," he said.

One Thai-language newspaper reported that a high-ranking civil servant was among those involved in the alleged swindle.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Lt Col Nos Svettaekha told the *Gazette* that the case had already gone through the courts as a civil case, but that the Norwegians felt the verdict was unfair to them.

The Norwegians sent a lawyer to Phuket City Police Station to file a complaint of fraud on their behalf, but the attorney was told the men had to file in person.

"They haven't come yet, but we are ready to accept their complaint when they do," said Col Nos.

# Police to press charges over sea gypsy assault

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

PHUKET: Police are preparing to press grievous bodily harm charges against a businessman accused of cutting the oxygen line of a sea gypsy diving off Nui Beach in January, Lt Col Peeran Meemak of Chalong Police Station announced at a meeting at Provincial Hall to discuss Rawai sea gypsies' fishing rights.

"I received a report from two sea gypsies on January 31 that someone cut their oxygen line while they were diving about 4 pm that day," Col Peeran said.

"The next morning the suspect was found and the sea gypsies identified him as the man who cut their oxygen line. I am now completing the report to be sent to the Public Prosecutor, who will press charges."

The meeting, chaired by Phuket Vice-Governor Tri Augkaradacha, was attended by Suthin Baromajet from the Na-



Rawai sea gypsy Chana Hadsaithong speaks of being threatened by local businessmen.

tional Human Rights Commission of Thailand and representatives from the Rawai Sea Gypsy community and the Rawai Tambon Administration Organization.

Chana Hadsaithong, a sea

gypsy from the Rawai community, said, "I'm one of six who were threatened by a businessman. I need the Chief of Muang district or the Vice-Governor to help us.

"We cannot work like we did before, we feel at risk. We need to know why tourists can dive around the island but we can't. Even the fish trap that the Fisheries Department gave us was destroyed by someone."

V/Gov Tri said that he was aware of the threats made against the sea gypsies and it had been reported to Chalong Police. He asked the departments responsible to outline diving areas for the sea gypsies and to explain any laws regarding diving to them.

Rawai sea gypsy Niran Yangpan added that some people were still being threatened by a businessman at Yanui Beach.

"If someone threatens you like this again, you can contact me. I will follow up it myself," V/Gov Tri replied.

## Youth arrested for stabbing

TUNG TONG: A young man was arrested at 1:30 am on March 18 for the murder of 20-year-old Thanongsak Umpaisakul, who was stabbed to death outside See Kor market at dawn the previous day.

Thongchai "Lan" Noomueang, 22, was riding his motorbike around Saphan Hin with friends when police caught up with him and presented him with an arrest warrant for murder.

Lt Col Kittipong Klaikaew at Tung Tong Police Station, where Thongchai was taken after his arrest, told the *Gazette*, "At the police station Thongchai admitted that he stabbed K. Thanongsak because he was angry that K. Thanongsak had slapped his sister's face.

"Thongchai and his friends were on their way home after a night out when they spotted K. Thanongsak riding his motorcycle in front of See Kor market.

"They forced K. Thanongsak to stop and began beating him. Thongchai then drew a knife and stabbed K. Thanongsak in the chest. He died at the scene," Col Kittipong said.

Thongchai has been charged with murder. Police are now hunting for his accomplices in the killing.

- Supanun Supawong

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# A one-way ticket to

**E**ver since the one-way system was introduced in Patong it has been the talk – for better or worse – of the town.

*Gazette* reporter Supanun Supawong takes to the streets of Patong to ask local people and tourists what they think of the new one-way road system that went into effect on January 15.

**A**fter the one-way road system was introduced in Patong, the normal traffic chaos there increased even further as confused drivers tried to cope with the changes.

Just five days after the system was put in place on a three-month trial basis, some 40 tuk-tuk drivers staged a protest. Parking their vehicles on the football field on Thaweewong Rd, they called on the government to scrap the one-way system and a return to two-way flow.

Among the drivers' complaints were that the new system increased travel time and operating costs – while decreasing profits of many local businesses that have lost passing trade. They also complained that the one-way system allows people to drive too fast, increasing the likelihood of accidents and making it more difficult for drivers to pick up fares.

To appease the drivers, a meeting was held at Kathu District Office on January 22, during which it was agreed by Kathu Police and Patong Municipality that the new system would be reviewed after just 45 days, not 90.

After the 45-day period had passed, Kathu Police announced that "one-way is here to stay". But to improve the system and

meet the public's needs, the Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) was hired to conduct a survey with the help of researchers and students from the Prince of Songkla University's Phuket Campus (PSU), with the results to be ready by the end of March.

Meanwhile, Kathu Police are still waiting for Patong Municipality to approve a 7.5-million-baht budget request to improve signs, markings and barriers to make the new system permanent – though such approval is not expected to come until the survey results are submitted.

PTA Deputy Chairman Sarayuth Mallam explained that 1,000 Thai-language questionnaires would be distributed to the general public in Patong, Kathu Police Station staff, Patong municipality officials, hotel staff, drivers and other entrepreneurs in Patong, and even some people in Phuket City.

As the questionnaires will be in Thai, PSU students will interview foreign tourists in English to get their views on the issue, he said.

Although the survey results are expected to be ready by the end of this month, the *Gazette* decided to randomly ask some people what they think of the one-way system.



**ARTFUL DODGER:** Some local residents, like this motorcycle taxi driver, find it much easier to stop at the top of Soi Bangla, then dodge around the barrier and then scoot against the flow of traffic – all just so they can enter Soi Saensabi without going around the block.

Winich Sathaworn, a 50-year-old tuk-tuk driver who has been working the streets of Patong for about 10 years, said he likes the new system.

"I like it because there are no more traffic jams. With two lanes of traffic, we can just drive around if the vehicle in front stops or pulls over. But one thing that needs improvement is the crosswalks.

I think there should be zebra crossings, maybe with traffic lights or crossing guards to help people cross the road," he said.

"Tuk-tuk drivers in Patong have increased fares, from 100 baht to 150 baht, because we have to drive longer distances and therefore use more gasoline. When I explain this reason to passengers they say they understand and that there is no problem with the increased fare," he added.

Witthawat Ruadrew, 49, agrees. The 30-year veteran tuk-tuk driver told the *Gazette* that the improved traffic flow is the key to the system's success.

"But there is a problem with parking. Although there are dedicated spaces for both cars and motorbikes, many people just park wherever they like. Some motorcycle taxis set up queues in the correct designated areas, but others don't – and I never see the local officials here take them to task about it... If we could just get people to park in the correct spaces I would support adopting the one-way system permanently," he said.

The one-way system has improved pedestrian safety be-

cause people crossing only need to worry about traffic coming from one direction instead of two, he added.

Motorcycle taxi driver Direk Thongkij, 30, disagrees, "I don't think the one-way system is very good because it makes it very dangerous for pedestrians to cross the street with the increased speed of the vehicles. Tourists often complain to me about this.

"From what I have seen, more accidents are happening because people are driving faster... especially at night. I don't really agree with making Patong one way permanently, but if officials really want to go through with it they should take steps to improve safety for pedestrians and provide more parking areas," he said.

"We have increased fares by 10 baht because the longer distances have increased our petrol costs. This is not as much as the tuk-tuk drivers, though, who have increased from 100 baht to 150 baht, and sometimes charge as much as 250 baht at night. Foreigners complain about this," he added.

**K**hun A (not her real name) also prefers the two-way system. The 34-year-old owner of a watch and clothing stall on Soi Bangla, also cited pedestrian safety as the main problem with the one-way system.

"There are more accidents now. It's just too dangerous for pedestrians to cross the street with the cars moving so fast. Also, on connecting roads with two-

way flow the orange cones in the middle of the road look messy and out-of-order. There is also a lack of parking on Soi Bangla. Before during the daytime you could park on the side of the road here, depending on the date. Now there is never any parking here. Drivers are paying more for petrol because of the increased distances they have to drive. I think I hear ambulance sirens four or five times a day now. Before I only heard one ambulance about every four or five days," she said.

"Overall, I think the new system has caused a lot more problems than it has solved. Before, in October 1995, they also tried to adopt a one-way system in Patong, but people began to protest after the first day and it failed. In my opinion, if officials plan to keep the one-way system permanently they should also be prepared to solve all the problems it causes," she added.

Motorbike taxi driver Jaroen Trongjit, who has worked in Patong for 14 years, told the *Gazette* his primary concern was the safety of people crossing the road on foot.

"Foreign tourists always complain to me, saying they have to wait 10 minutes to cross the road because no vehicles stop. For me, one way or two way is the same, but I am just worried about people who want to cross the road. I want officials to improve that. I suggest they install speed bumps every 200 meters to make the vehicles drives more slowly so that people can cross the road... I don't think making more zebra crossings will help be-



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# your doom?



**IS IT SAFE YET?** With traffic approaching at high speeds, some tourists say it now takes them as long as 10 minutes to safely cross Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd or the beach road.

cause most people will continue to cross the road wherever they want...

"However, it is important that all crosswalks now have traffic lights so that pedestrians can cross safely," he said.

Lee Brack, a 32-year-old tourist from Nottingham, England, told the *Gazette*, "I have been in Phuket for two weeks now, and I came last November too...It's easier now...Before it was too busy, it was dangerous.

"Now you just have to look one way before you cross the road...But one thing that I don't understand is that if you drive on some sois why you have to drive

on the right side," he said.

**A** Kathu Police traffic officer, who asked that the *Gazette* not print his name, said that the one-way system had improved traffic flow considerably, but admitted it was now more dangerous for pedestrians to cross the roads.

"If they install speed bumps and traffic lights at crosswalks this will improve the situation... Actually the number of accidents has decreased with the new system, especially serious accidents. There is also the problem of parking, with much of the available parking area reserved for use by

tuk-tuks and motorbike taxis. This is a difficult thing to change, because they are local people who have lived here for a long time," he concluded.

**A**n ambulance driver at Patong Hospital, who asked that his name not be used, complained that the one-way system increases the length of time it takes him to drive most emergency cases to Patong Hospital.

"If I need to pick up an emergency patient at Loma Park, for example, I can no longer just drive up Sawatdirak Rd, as I could before. Some trips that used

## Carnage by numbers

### Patong road accident statistics

|                      | Dec 2006 | Jan 2007 | Feb 2007 | Total |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| Phra Barami Rd       | 36       | 55       | 31       | 122   |
| Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd | 26       | 37       | 26       | 89    |
| Sai Namyen Rd        | 25       | 32       | 26       | 83    |
| Nanai Rd             | 17       | 29       | 22       | 68    |
| Thaweewong Rd        | 28       | 50       | 22       | 100   |

Source: Emergency Room, Patong Hospital.

**A** medical staff worker in the emergency room of Patong Hospital told the *Gazette* that following the January 15 change to one-way traffic flow there was a noticeable jump in the number of accidents reported from Nanai Rd, where traffic remains two way.

"Usually there aren't many accidents on Nanai Rd, but after the change to the one-way system it jumped into the top three. I am not really sure what the cause was - maybe a change in people's driving habits," she speculated.

"However, Thaweewong Rd and Phra Barami Rd continue to have the most accidents. I think it is still too early to use these statistics to evaluate the success of the new system though, because there are so many other factors involved and road accident statistics tend to be highly variable, depending on the season and number of tourists here," she added.

to take just a few minutes now take 10-15 minutes, which is too long when it's a matter of life and death," he said.

"I think we should have special ambulance lanes here in Patong, as they do in Bangkok. I know it would be difficult to implement because the roads are so narrow, but at the least officials could allow ambulances to go up Sawatdirak Rd and across Rat-U-Thit Rd to Sainamyen Rd so we can get to the hospital without having to go all the way

around," he said.

However, the one-way system does have its merits, he said.

"It is more convenient to drive on a one-way road. It prevents the likelihood of head-on collisions.

"Also, I think the number of accidents has increased since the new system was put in place, with those that have occurred being less serious, mostly vehicle scrapes and scratches."





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## Queer News

## Getting away from it all

When the stresses of life and the pressure to be polite become too much, the idea of retreating into a little place to get away from it all can be quite tempting. This is exactly what one man in Srisaket province has done – for the past 20 years.

While out visiting his charges in the province's Nam Kiang District, Srisaket Vice-Governor Phirasak Hinmuangkao was told about a man in the district who lived in a hole in his relatives' garden.

Villagers led V/Gov Phirasak to the house of siblings Phai Jaijaeng, 82, and Khai Jaijaeng, 73. Outside the house, V/Gov Phirasak was shown an almost three-meter-deep pit where K. Phai and K. Khai's younger brother, 70-year-old Suan, have lived for the past 20 years.

K. Phai said that about 20 years ago, his younger brother had begun acting strangely and refused to talk to him. Shortly after, K. Suan dug a hole with an entrance only 50 centimeters by 50cm and then retreated into it, refusing to leave or even to come out to take a bath.

When K. Phai asked his brother why he was acting so strange, K. Suan replied that he liked it in the hole and told his brother not to bother him.

Every two or three days K. Suan would come out to eat, but only at nighttime as he didn't like the sun, K. Phai said.

After each meal, K. Suan would rush back to his hole, K. Phai said. If close friends came to visit, K. Suan would sometimes come to the mouth of the hole to chat with them for a while before retreating back into the darkness.

K. Suan's only piece of clothing, K. Phai explained, was a pair of old underpants which he wore at all times. K. Phai said that his brother wasn't hurting anyone, so he decided not to interfere with him and to let him stay in his hole.

V/Gov Phirasak gave some money and some medicine to K. Phai to look after his younger brother, who refused to come out of his hole to accept the gift himself.

He then instructed the local authority, Tong Pit Tambon Administration Organization, to watch over K. Suan and to try not to let anyone disturb him. *Source: Kom Chad Luek*



There's more to the Koh Sireh area than murdered Burmese fishing boat crew. This delightful grotto contains piles of non-biodegradable plastic bags which contain – well, whatever it is, it reeks to high heaven.

It is not recorded who founded this informal trash pile, but it seems that others have gleefully added to it, to the point where it has become semi-official.

Got a grotty grotto of your own? Spotted a stinky stack? Email a picture with a brief description to [dump@phuketgazette.net](mailto:dump@phuketgazette.net) and we'll give it a good airing.

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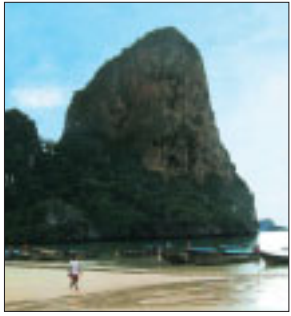
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## ACROSS THE BAY

By Gus Reynolds

**I**t is tax time for commercial property owners, and watch out, especially if your business is in Ao Nang. The structure tax for commercial properties, hotels and other businesses has just been raised by startling amounts.

Structure taxes on Ao Nang beachfront properties have jumped more than 300% in just one year. Previously assessed at 140 baht per square meter, the new rate being imposed is 450 baht per sqm. Ao Nang is now being divided into three tax zones: high, higher and highest – just kidding!

Zone One is the beachfront and is assessed at 450 baht per sqm. Zone Two is from the beach to Haad Napporat Thara Bridge on one side of Ao Nang and Pra Nang Inn to the mosque on the other side and is assessed at 350 baht per sqm. Zone 3 is from the mosque to Fossil Shell Beach and Moo 2 to Ao Nang School, Railey and the Phi Phi Islands, and are all assessed at 225 baht per sqm.

All other areas in Ao Nang and Moo 4, 5 and 6 are assessed at 70 baht per square meter.

All businesses in Zone 1 will have a 300% plus increase in their taxes, while resorts, which are assessed according to number of rooms and room rates, are reporting 50% to 100% increases. Some businesses reported that their rates had been raised at a similar level last year, but they had fought the increases and had them raised at less onerous levels.

So what recourse do businesses have if they feel this tax raise is unfair?

One must file a letter of complaint to the Tambon Administration Organization's (*OrBorTor*) office within 15 days of receiving the tax notice to explain why the tax raise is not justified. If a mutual rate cannot be agreed upon, then the business may file a claim in court.

History shows that the *OrBorTor*'s office will almost always negotiate with businesses.

The new offices for the Ao Nang *OrBorTor* in Haad Napporat Thara are near completion and should be open by May. The old offices on Haad Napporat Thara Rd were certainly cramped and outdated.

The new facilities are quite impressive and more suitable to a tambon with the responsibilities it has to cover – Railey, the Phi Phi Islands and all of Ao Nang. Let's hope they put a big safe in the basement to keep all those tax payments.

# Taxing time in Ao Nang



**APPROPRIATE USE OF TAXES:** The new Ao Nang OrBorTor office building (above) and the rather less impressive structure it will replace (below).



**Power up:** We understand that Cabinet has approved the underground power line that will connect the mainland to Sri Borya, Koh Pu and Phi Phi Don Island. The 27-kilometer cable has been talked about for ages.

It will be a welcome addition to inhabitants of the islands, and spur development on those islands that have lagged behind due to the lack of electricity.

**In the dumps:** Over the years we have documented how Krabi

has been growing, and the efforts to keep it a clean family-oriented destination.

On many counts, Krabi can claim success; you won't find a girlie bar on the main roads nor katoeys harassing tourists as in other beach destinations.

However, there is one disturbing development that we hope is nipped in the bud: the dumping of garbage on the side of the road.

It seems a lot of garbage, much of it construction materials,

is being dumped on the roadsides just outside the Ao Nang tourist areas.

While most major developers abide by the rules and dump their refuse at legal dumping areas under license from the *OrBorTor*, it seems some smaller operators are not following the legal practice.

And when they dump garbage on a vacant lot or by the side of the road, others seem to follow, and the pile just grows.

Signs posted for "No Garbage" are ignored or knocked down. This is a shame, and anyone who has information on those dumping illegally should pass it along to the *OrBorTor* or local police.

**Up in the air:** I have always enjoyed traveling to the many islands in the area, particularly Koh Phi Phi, Koh Lanta and Koh Yao, but have often hesitated due to the thought of long boat rides or waits for the ferry.

However a group of seasoned pilots have come up with a solution to this problem by introducing a seaplane service, Destination Air, that connects Phuket, Krabi, Phi Phi, Koh Lanta, Koh Yao and Koh Racha.

The Cessna Caravan seaplanes, besides being faster and adding more holiday time, offer spectacular views of the islands. The flights are not cheap, between 6,000 and 8,000 baht, but those asking for this type of service normally are not concerned with price.

This is probably not suitable for elderly travelers or those with steamer trunks full of clothes. But for the rest of us who just want to get to our destination, it is the best way to go.

The flights are in operation from October 15 to May 1 and details of the routes can be found on their website at: [www.destinationair.com](http://www.destinationair.com).



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# Three die in attack on school

Gunmen killed three students and injured seven others when they attacked an Islamic school in Songkhla's Saba Yoi District with grenades and machine guns late on March 17.

The incident triggered a fiery protest by Muslim villagers who believed it was carried out by government troops.

Following the attack, three Buddhists were shot dead in two separate incidents in the same district.

The day after the attack, hundreds of villagers felled trees to block the road leading to Bamrungsart Pondok School at Pusuleh village to prevent security forces from inspecting the crime scene. The protesters demanded the removal of a Rangers base from their community after the attack.

The villagers said they believed that troops from the base attacked the boarding school in revenge for a gun attack on their camp on March 16.

After more than 10 hours of tense stand-off, the protesters agreed to disperse and to allow investigators to enter the school.

A band of armed men hurled grenades into a dormitory at the Islamic school around 10 pm on March 17 before firing from assault rifles into the building.

Two students, aged 12 and 14, were killed and another 17-year-old student was later pronounced dead at hospital. Seven others were injured in the attack, police said.

The attack came after the execution of eight passengers on a civilian minibus traveling from Yala's Betong District to Haad Yai in Songkhla on March 14.

Around 8 am while traveling through Yaha District, Yala,



BEAUTY BY THE BOATLOAD: Miss Thailand Universe contestants enjoy time out at Koh Kradan in Trang.

— Photo by Nanthasit Nitmatha

victim's daughter, Arajira Pongkan, 27, and the boat's five crew members who had been brought ashore by another fishing boat.

K. Arajira said that her father, Anan Pongkan, 50, had phoned her on March 12 saying that he would be back in port by March 14. When he did not return that day, she became worried. The following morning she learned from the boat's crew members what had happened.

Lek, a Burmese crew member, told police that in the middle of the night the boat had been rammed by another, the *Chok Udomchok 1*, also based in Chumphon.

Three men, one armed with a shotgun and two with pistols, then boarded the boat, Lek said. The man armed with the shotgun shot twice at K. Anan, who was at the helm. The men then bound Anan's hands and feet and threw him overboard.

The raiders then went below deck and opened the bilge tap, allowing water in. When back on deck, one of the men shot Wae, another crew member, causing him to fall overboard.

"The rest of us then jumped into the sea to try and escape," Lek said, "but the men kept shooting at us. Eventually, they headed off in the direction of Koh Tao."

The five men were in the water for about two hours before another boat rescued them and helped save K. Anan's boat *Chok Jaroenchai 2*, which by then was close to sinking.

The crew members told police that before the incident, they had heard K. Anan arguing over the radio with the captain of *Chok Udomchok 1*. K. Anan had accused the other captain of stealing a laborer who he had already hired. The argument quickly became heated, and the two men insulted each others' mothers.

Maj Borisut said that he would request an arrest warrant for the captain of the *Chok Udomchok 1* and his crew.

*Around The South news round-up is sourced from the pages of The Nation and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.*

The dead — all Buddhists — included a soldier and a teenager, police said.

At the time of going to press, 25 suspected insurgents had been arrested for questioning over the attack.

**Woeful wedding:** A 20-year-old Ranger was killed after being stabbed with a metal sharpening tool at a wedding in the early hours March 15. He was due to be sent to serve in the Deep South the following morning.

From their investigation, police learned that Surachet Thonglamun had left his camp in Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Sichon District March 15 to return home to Chawang District for a friend's wedding. As he was dancing in front of the stage, a scuffle broke out involving a group of youths. When the situation had calmed down, K. Surachet was found lying bleeding on the floor. He was taken to Somdej Phrayupharach Chawang Hospital, but died on route.

**Arresting amulets:** Six new regulations were issued in Nakhon Sri Thammarat March 12 to crack down on imitations of the much-sought-after Jatukham Rammathep amulet.

Provincial Vice-Governor Somsak Khamthaweeprhrome said the regulations required mandatory registration of every reproduction of Jatukham Rammathep amulets.

The registration requires details of the material used, the number of amulets made, objec-

tives behind each reproduction and detailed information on the "blessing process".

The blessing process must only be done at Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Holy Pillar Shrine or at Wat Mahathat Worra Maha Wiharn, where the late crime-buster Pol Maj Gen Khun Phantharak Rajjadej was based and helped create the famous amulets.

Those selling unauthorized Jatukham Rammathep amulets will face criminal prosecution if they are arrested for being in possession of the fake items after the end of a grace period, V/Gov Somsak said.

A committee representing provincial authorities and the local Buddhist office will be set up to regulate the amulet reproduction process.

Office head Sonthaya Seniam said the temples each receive only around 20% of revenue gained from the reproduction of one Jatukham Rammathep model.

In one case, a temple received only 50,000 baht, while those who produced the amulets reaped 8 million baht.

**Stormy seas:** A man was shot dead and his boat almost sunk during a dispute between two fishing boat captains off Chumphon province in the early hours of March 15. The boat's five Burmese crew members escaped by jumping overboard.

The incident was reported to Maj Borisut Jaroenrak, Duty Inspector at Lamae District Police Station, on March 15 by the

the vehicle was forced to stop because of a tree across the road. Ten militants immediately attacked from the adjacent forest.

Eight passengers died at the scene and another was critically injured and admitted to a hospital in Yala.

A roadside bomb delayed rangers stationed nearby in their efforts to reach the site, an official said.

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The Cabinet has approved a bill prohibiting the sale of alcoholic drinks to people under 20 years old, banning virtually all public alcohol advertisements and defining specific zones where alcohol can be bought and consumed.

Public Health Minister Dr Mongkol na Songkhla said advertising would only be allowed in "private and closed" places, while beer gardens would be allowed if no logos or brands were on show.

The bill will be submitted to the National Legislative Assembly for deliberation soon.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last year failed to enforce a proposal banning most alcohol ads as the Council of State finally ruled that the FDA had no mandate to do so.

As a result, the Public Health Ministry has instead introduced the Alcohol Control Act to continue pushing for a ban, which the ministry and many anti-alcohol groups strongly support.

Chatchai Viratyosin, Marketing Manager at Singha Corp, said he had predicted the bill would be approved, but was worried that the ad ban would drive producers into a price war.

The government should solve the problem at its origin, by adjusting alcohol tax rate according to the percentage of alcohol, he said.

Instead of reducing alcohol consumption, the ban would give an advantage to inexpensive *lao khao* (white spirits), which already have the highest sales in the country – without any advertising at all, he added.

**Go figure:** The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) plans to open three new overseas offices this year to lure more tourists, bringing the total to 20 offices. The new offices – in Moscow, Dubai and Ho Chi Minh City – will cost at least 60 million baht in total.

"TAT expects the Moscow and Dubai offices to boost the number of high-end tourists coming to the country, while the Ho Chi Minh office will focus on the expatriate group," said TAT governor Pornsiri Manoharn.

The TAT is also planning to open a Shanghai office next year, its second office in China, she added.

The TAT expects 14.8 million tourist arrivals this year, up 8.4% from last year. Some 65% of them will come from Asian countries, according to projections. The TAT achieved its target of 13.8 million tourists last year.

**Psychotourism:** The Mental Health Department is planning to allow public visits to the nation's psychiatric hospitals.

The department's Director-General, Dr Somchai Chakraphan, said the visits, part of an effort to make the public understand psychiatric services, would be arranged in a way that would not affect patients.

The announcement follows a Bangkok scandal in which a

# Cabinet supports booze control bill



Members of the Peoples' Alliance for Democracy (PAD) use a sledgehammer to smash a television in front of the Office of the Auditor General in Bangkok. The PAD was protesting the government's last-minute bailout of the iTV network, which was recently renamed TITV and allowed to continue broadcasting.

young woman accused the Sri-thanya Hospital, one of the country's oldest mental hospitals, of treating a man she said was perfectly sane.

It was later revealed that the man, the owner of a famous tutorial school in Bangkok, was suffering from psychosis, the result of having high concentrations of the stimulant drug ephedrine in his blood.

Public Health Minister Dr Mongkol na Songkhla said the highly-publicized scandal reflected that society did not understand how to identify mentally ill patients.

"It requires a psychiatrist to identify mental illnesses in a person and to give proper treatment," Dr Mongkol said.

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**Crack troops:** After five months of investigations and resignations of top executives, Airports of Thailand (AOT) has finally taken steps to halt the spread of fissures that have resulted in the closing of part of Suvarnabhumi Airport.

On March 16, a backhoe

dug a trench near one of the damaged taxiways as part of a test of draining groundwater over a 35-square-meter test area.

"It's critical that we discover how to extract this water before the rainy season returns," said AOT senior engineer Surajit Surapolchai.

There are 46 areas in the airfield where water blockage in the sand underneath has caused damage to the pavement surface, he said.

AOT officials were non-committal as to if and when remedial measures might be extended to the 100,000sqm damaged to date.

"We have to wait for the result of the test to determine the long-term treatment," said K. Surajit.

**Tour woes expected:** Negative news will cause a fall in the number of tourists visiting Thailand for the Songkran festival next month, the Thai Travel Agents Association (TTAA) has warned.

TTAA President Anake Srishevachart said the number of charter flights from Japan, Hong Kong and China over the holiday period would decline from the usual number of 40 to 30.

More than 500 Japanese students planning to visit Thailand in November have already canceled their trip, he said.

K. Anake said inbound tourism this year would be slower than last year due to negative news, including the murder of two Russian tourists in Pattaya, violence in the South, air pollution in the North and rumors about bombings at major public places.

The TTAA and the Association of Thai Travel Agents will deliver a letter to Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont, urging the government to take action to maintain the number of tourists, he said.

The TTAA is also calling on the government to withdraw a ban on alcohol advertising, claiming it will damage the tourism sector, especially at very popular destinations such as Phuket, Pattaya and Bangkok.

*Around the Nation news round-up is sourced from the pages of The Nation and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.*

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# Strutting the streets



Organizers promise that this year's Phuket Pride festival will be every bit as colorful and outrageous as in previous years – and will be bigger than ever. They hope to attract at least 5,000 people to watch the street parades.

By Zach Fridell

Patong will once again be the host to big costumes, big personalities and a big parade during the 2007 Gay Pride Festival.

The festival, held March 29 to April 1 will host a range of new activities this year, culminating with a parade and beach party on Sunday, April 1.

Sponsored by the Phuket Pride Association (PPA), the festival is expected to draw even more than last year's total of 5,000 tourists.

In this, the eighth year of the celebration, the PPA will continue to support organizations in Phuket that fight against HIV and Aids, including the Patong Hospital "Men who have sex with men (MSM)" project, which strives to increase condom usage among male sex workers in Patong.

"We want the community at large to be more aware of the charitable work done by the gay community in Phuket, through Phuket Pride," said Poonsak "Daeng" Sanchan, the current chairperson of PPA in a press release.

"For the past several years, Phuket Pride has given over 1 million baht to the Patong Hospital's MSM project." The slogan for this year's event will be "Creating a Stronger GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transexual) Community in Phuket".

The festival will work with local hotels to help them capture a piece of the gay travel community, who the PPA touts as being "early innovators", "trend-setters" and sought-after because of the high disposable income that couples without children often have.

A release from the group states that 10% of international travelers are gay or lesbians, accounting for 70 million arrivals worldwide.

PPA organizers moved the start of this year's festival to the end of March in an attempt to lure party-goers to stay for Songkran, held April 13.

The festival will kick off Thursday, March 29, with a pre-opening red carpet party at the Paradise Complex's Way Out Strip, located just off Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd opposite Soi Bangla.

On Friday, the Gay Beach Volleyball tournament will begin at noon, followed by a carnival, fireworks and a party on Patong beach that will extend into the evening.

Saturday will have the completion of the volleyball tournament and a "Be Free and Happy" beach party.

The festival will conclude on Sunday with the costumed parade and a closing ceremony with a beach dance party.



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# SHELLING OUT

No, the headline is not a Conneryesque way of suggesting that, since the Pearl Village Hotel at Nai Yang beach has been transmogrified into something bigger, brasher and bolder – namely the Indigo Pearl hotel – that it has lost something of itself.

It has, on the contrary, gained a great deal.

The über-talented team of Bill Bensley and John Underwood have worked miracles with the dear old Pearl, creating a modern architectural and stylistic language not seen elsewhere in Phuket, possibly Thailand.

We even espy a certain Hong-Kong based restaurateur and tycoon making – almost incognito, like a latter-day Henry V before Agincourt – an inspection of the resort.

Reminders of Phuket's tin mining past abound. Witness the striking sculpture – reminiscent of Soviet-era art – of helmeted miners. I, of Durham mining stock on one side of my family, found it curiously moving.

But away from industrial-chic architecture. "Shelling out" should not be taken to be a reference to the price of either accommodation or, for the purposes of this article, the tariff for eating, be it breakfast, brunch, lunch or dinner. Actually, it's more than generous at 2,500 baht, which includes the delightful free-flow champers at the resort's Tin Mine restaurant brunch.

The champagne in question – yes, I know that I seem to be making an atypical foray into the realms of "proper" reviewing, that is, giving some gen about the food and bev side of things before attempting to get away with a little feather-footed passing through the plashy fen in the style of a questing vole and writing reams and reams about, well, nothing in particular.

I believe it is called a "stream of consciousness", which as the more literary- (if not literally-) minded must know is a literary technique made famous by that well-known Oirish writer James Joyce.

However, *The Garden of Cyrus* or *The Quincuniall* (1658) by Sir Thomas Browne and of course Ovid's *Metamorphoses* (8 BC), both fine exemplars of the genre, predate *Ulysses* by er... quite a bit.

By Jove! I've done it again. Bearing in mind the champers, perhaps it is more of a stream of unconsciousness. However, much as I would love to take credit for inventing that phrase I, sadly, cannot – is from the house of Duval-Leroy.

There are some of you out there – no nationalities, no pack drill – who refer to champagne as French champagne.

Champagne is champagne, and as such comes under the aegis of being a Protected Designation of Origin (PDO). PDO is a term dreamed up by the pinkish-types in Brussels to safeguard the producers of Black Forest ham, Ouzo and Jersey Royal potatoes to name but a few items.



A feast for the eyes as well as for the palate: Sushi (above), prawns (below left) and grilled vegetables.



There is, of course, Sovetskoye Shampanskoye or Soviet champagne, but I can't be bothered to go into all of that.

Brunch, however, is far more a movable, more correctly an indefinable, feast. Flitting from high-brow to populist like the culture vulture circling Phuket's wilting civilization, I would say the best definition of brunch is from, of course, *The Simpsons*:

**Marge:** What's brunch?

**Jacques:** You'll love it. It's not quite breakfast, it's not quite lunch, but it comes with a slice of cantaloupe at the end. You don't get completely what you would get at breakfast, but you get a good meal.

A good meal – enough to keep body and mind apart, I mean together, is all anyone should want. Indeed, a jolly good meal in the delightful company of Indigo Pearl's GM Anthony Ross is

exactly what Lady P and I enjoy.

The award-winning Duval-Leroy flows as freely as one could wish; the oysters are desperately sweet and plentiful; the grilled vegetables are pure Mediterranean sunshine colors; the sushi and sashimi unquestionably good. The desserts, too, are not to be trifled with. There is even bread-and-butter pudding.

And yet... Well, it is no criticism of Indigo Pearl nor of any other brunch in a Phuket resort, but where is the decadence?

Brunch, in our experience, is the natural remedy to the morning after the night before. Hair of the dog – the lovely Duval-Leroy – is there, but we want something, an experience that combines the excesses of the final days of the Roman Empire with a splash of *Brideshead* Re-

## On the menu



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# THE HUMAN FACE

From April 2, the new Chief Judge of Phuket Provincial Court will be 44-year-old Trang native Yuvischya Yokcive, who was promoted to the top position from her current post as head of the Phuket Provincial Court Juvenile and Family Division. With the promotion, she will become the second female Chief Judge in Phuket. Here she tells *Gazette* Chief Reporter Sangkhae Leelanapaporn about her life, how she deals with the stress of her position, the reasons behind her success – and her plans for the future.

**Gazette:** Could you please tell me a bit about your background?

**Judge Yuvischya:** Both of my parents have already passed away, but I have two older brothers and one older sister. Although no one in my family had ever worked in the court system before, it was my dream from a very young age to become a judge. I knew it wouldn't be an easy goal to attain, but I have always loved a challenge.

I graduated with a bachelor's degree in law from Ramkhamhaeng University in 1985. After graduating I worked as a lawyer for about two years. I took the exam to be a judge in 1991. After passing it, I worked as an Apprentice Judge at the Criminal Court in Bangkok.

My first appointment outside Bangkok came in 1994, when I was appointed as a judge to Surat Thani Provincial Juvenile and Family Court. I served in that position for two years until I was transferred to Songkhla, where I served as Judge for four years.

After that it was back to greater Bangkok, where I was a judge at Thonburi Civil Court.

In 2005, I was appointed

Chief Judge at the Takuapa Provincial Court [one of the two provincial courts in Phang Nga Province]. I stayed there until last April, when I took up my position as Head of the Phuket Provincial Court Juvenile and Family Division. On April 2, I will become the second woman to take up the position of Chief Judge of Phuket Provincial Court.

**Gazette:** What were the differences between working in the Juvenile and Family Court in Phuket compared to its counterpart in Surat Thani?

**Judge Yuvischya:** In fact, the number of children breaking the law in Surat Thani is higher than in Phuket. There are more serious sexual assault cases there, such as group rape. Also, Phuket benefits from having many non-governmental organizations that reach out to children, helping them develop their behavior in a positive way.

Children and teens in Phuket get much more training and instruction in such matters as traffic laws and the dangers of drugs and unprotected sex. I think this helps.

In many cases where juveniles are found breaking the law



**TAKING A LONG VIEW:** Not all of a judge's work is done in the courtroom. This photo was taken last year when Judge Yuvischya went on a boat trip as part of her official introduction to the island.

in Phuket we find that in fact they were supported by or acting under instruction of adults. One example would be youths snatching tourists' goods. In many such cases, investigations reveal that the youths are victims too.

**Gazette:** What is the caseload like in Phuket Provincial Court Juvenile and Family Division?

**Judge Yuvischya:** We have five hearing rooms with four judges, myself included. We hear about 10 to 15 cases a week, which is not many compared to most other provincial courts.

We also have a mediation center that is very helpful in solving property settlement and child

custody disputes in divorce cases. This has been very successful in helping to reduce the number of cases that otherwise would be going to be court.

**Gazette:** Do you prefer working in the Juvenile and Family Court or the regular Provincial Court?

**Judge Yuvischya:** In fact, I can work in both. In the Juvenile Courts in Surat Thani we spent a good deal of time on education – giving speeches and talking to youths about the risks and possible ramifications of breaking the law as well as in monitoring the behavior of young offenders to ensure they don't repeat their mistakes.

When minors break the law we invite parents and community leaders to take part in monitoring their activities after their release. In that sense it is a bit like social work. For it to be successful, we really have to understand the problems that teenagers are facing. So Juvenile Court is more about prevention than Provincial Court.

**Gazette:** What are the main causes of youth crime?

**Judge Yuvischya:** They are usually related to family life. If a family has no problems, the children will have no problems. That is why it is important to question the parents in juvenile cases.

Children are like blank slates and its counterproductive to cut them off from their families and society, so we always try

to solve problems within a family context first, with the parents and juveniles reporting in once a month. We only assign a child to a Juvenile Observation and Protection Center as a last resort.

Statistics for Phuket in 2006 show the most common charges brought against youths were the use of inhalants [132 cases], followed by theft [82 cases] and receiving stolen goods [47 cases].

Youths in Phuket tend to be more greatly subjected to elements of Western culture than children in other Thai provinces. Also, many parents here are always working hard and don't have enough time to stay with and educate their children by themselves.

Left to their own devices, youths tend to hang out with and be influenced by their friends. For example, if one member of a peer group comes into possession of a trendy or luxury item, another member might become envious and turn to theft to get one for him or herself.

**Gazette:** When it comes to being a judge, what are the relative benefits of being female?

**Judge Yuvischya:** I don't have any problems being a woman [doing what is often perceived as man's work].

In Phuket there are many women heading up government agencies and I think this reflects the working style of a new generation.

I like this new working style because it is fast and suits my

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# OF JUSTICE



own nature as a quick decision-maker.

I have found people in Phuket have given me a particularly warm welcome and been supportive of my work, giving me assistance in whatever I request.

**Gazette:** What is your policy when it comes to attempts to "buy" justice? How can this problem be prevented?

**Judge Yuvischya:** I can tell you for certain that this is only a rumor and one that is not true, at least as far as the judicial system is concerned.

I can't speak for the entire criminal justice system, but once a case is put before the court it is just not possible for this to happen because all of our decisions are subject to review by Chief Judges and if such a thing were uncovered we would be expelled from public service.

If anyone has specific evidence [of a case of judicial corruption] I would encourage them to contact me with the details.

However, in my entire 15 years as a judge I have never heard of even a single case where anyone has offered [a bribe] to a sitting judge. This I can confirm. Rumors that such things can happen are very damaging to an institution that depends on honor and integrity as its very foundation.

**Gazette:** Do you feel the need to be a good role model restricts you personally?

**Judge Yuvischya:** This job does come with certain constraints because if our image becomes tarnished the public will

lose faith in us, so maintaining this trust is a judge's top priority.

Of course, every judge must take responsibility for his or her own actions, but I think there might be some truth behind the old Thai adage that the woman who marries a judge is lucky because her husband will always be extra careful in his behavior. Of course even judges need time to relax. When I want to unwind I book a VIP room and sing karaoke with my friends.

**Gazette:** What do you think about perceptions that a female judge may be more prone to let shows of emotion such as crying affect her objectivity during a court proceeding?

**Judge Yuvischya:** It's untrue. The spirit of justice is neither male or female. During court proceedings it's also important for a judge to control his own shows of emotion, even though it may not always be an easy thing to do. We have an extremely important responsibility. As a Judge in Songkhla, many times I had to sentence convicted criminals to capital punishment in murder and drug-related cases.

**Gazette:** To what do you attribute your current success?

**Judge Yuvischya:** To the fact that I am a very determined and hard-working person. I always try and do my job to the best of my ability, day in and day out. I don't think success is something that results from the alignment of the stars, but rather from our own efforts and good deeds.

People should know that success in the law profession can only come as a result of hard study over many years. I spent almost all my youth with my head in law books and look at me now – I am an old maid!

**Gazette:** What are your hobbies? How do you spend your days off?

**Judge Yuvischya:** I love exercise, so every evening I go to the fitness club to work out – aerobic dance, yoga and things like that. I love to get in a good, hard workout because it helps me forget work and the stress that the cases I am working on sometimes create.

I have always loved reading too, ever since I was very young. I am currently reading the Thai translation of *Winning with People*, by John C Maxwell. I love reading books about personal development and human psychology. Sometimes we cannot change other people, so we have to change ourselves.

I also like to stay home and garden. All around my house there are many different kinds of plants and flowers.

**Gazette:** Are you happy with the single life or would you like to start a family?

**Judge Yuvischya:** I think I can forget about that possibility, because people tend to keep their distance from a female judge; no one has enough courage to come into my life [laughs].

But I'm happy with my life as it is now, even though all of my brothers and sisters are already married and waiting for me to do the same.

I am okay with that, and I enjoy spending time with my many nieces and nephews. Everyone in my family accepts me the way I am.

Sometimes when there are problems they even come to me to help me settle them. I am quite proud of this because when we were younger I was so often scolded by my parents, but now I have become the family leader even though I am the youngest child.

**Gazette:** What are your plans for the future?

**Judge Yuvischya:** I will work until I'm 70 years old, at which time I will retire. Most civil servants must take mandatory retirement at age 60, but for judges we can work for 10 extra years as a Senior Judge. I still enjoy working so much. After I finish work, I plan to live in Trang with my family and all my nieces and nephews.

## Happily Ever After

### Recently married in Phuket



Miyuki Mori and Keisuke Kawamoto from Japan celebrated their wedding at Le Royal Meridien Phuket Yacht Club February 24. They are pictured on Nai Harn Beach.



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## This week



**IN THE NAVY:** Malaysian Navy Commodore Khalid Bin Jaafa (right) and Thai Navy Commodore Venus Jaengsri of the Third Naval Area Command share a laugh at a reception hosted on board the Malay naval vessel the KD Mahawangsa during its recent visit to Phuket.



**SMOKE AND MIRRORS:** President of Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (OrBorJor) Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr (back row, 5<sup>th</sup> from left) joins OrBorJor members and the thespians of the Light and Sound Show at the annual Phuket Heroines' Festival.



**THE 'A' LIST:** JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa's Chief Concierge Ampiwon Buraphamongkolchai (right) was recently made a member of the prestigious Union Internationale des Clefs d'Or, an association of concierge professionals. Joining her in celebrating is her concierge team.



**DANCIN' CATS:** Phuket Pearl Lions Club President Adrienne Tusoni (left) joins club members and guests at Latino's Restaurant for the club's Latin Dance Benefit, a night of fund-raising for charity projects.



**JOY RIDE:** Phuket Vice-Governor Tri Augkaradacha snuggles into a new Mercedes-Benz CLK200 at the Andaman Motor Show 2007. Phuket Mercedes-Benz Assistant Managing Director of Sales and Marketing Chalernsak Khanasiriwetch stands by.



**SWAT THE BIRDIE:** Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima (back row, center), Phuket Office of Sports and Recreation Development Chief Promchote Traivate (back row, 2<sup>nd</sup> from right) and Phuket Square Co Ltd Deputy CEO Prawit Janyasittikul (back row, 2<sup>nd</sup> from left) join athletes at a demonstration of the new sport "Speedminton" at Jungceylon.

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# All the bells and whistles

The latest BMW X3 has already made its debut in the United States, where of course, its larger sibling, the X5 and the two-seater Z4 are produced in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Oddly enough the X3, though, is built in Austria – and not even by BMW.

The X3 is manufactured from BMW parts by the Canadian Magna Corporation at the Magna Steyr factory in Graz, southern Austria.

The Spartanburg manufacturing plant was BMW's first foray into North America, beginning in 1996, and was initially established to produce the new X5, but the facility was such a huge success, it was decided to base the Z3 and its replacement the Z4 in South Carolina.

For a while a small number of three-series were built in Spartanburg. But this is no longer the case; capacity concerns meant that Magna got the X3, although BMW is insistent it meets all the company's build-quality standards.

The 2007 US X3 is only available as a three liter, but previous versions were a less powerful 2.5, plus two- and three-liter diesels, which are still the models available in Thailand. Still reasonably powerful, yet remarkably economical, the 2.5-liter gasoline X3 offers everything needed.

Introduced initially in 2003 the X3 provided luxury and versatility, and while nobody pretended it was the ultimate off-roader, it was nimble and sure-footed. And most of all, it possessed sedan comfort and handling.

The straight-six 2.5 gas engine produces a healthy 192 bhp (141 kW) at 6,000 rpm, with an equally healthy torque output of 245 Nm at the modest engine speed of 3,500 rpm. Quoted top speed is 208 km/h with a 0-100 km/h sprint time of a shade under 10 seconds.

The X3 has BMW's complex xDrive system, which apportions torque to the relevant wheels according to changing road conditions. Brakes are ventilated discs all round, with an automatic differential brake. Hill



The latest BMW X3 offers luxurious comfort and plenty of storage and a top speed of over 200 kmh.

descent control is standard, which limits the speed on steep down-slopes to around 8 km/h. Dynamic stability control is also standard equipment.

A six-speed manual gearbox is standard on all X3s, although a five-speed automatic transmission is available on selected models. Permanent all-wheel drive is fitted to all versions.

Inside there are side airbags complementing the driver and passenger airbags, while front and rear head bags are also fitted. Rear side bags are an option.

The seatbelts are fitted with force limiters and tensioners with electronically-controlled pyrotechnic actuators. In the event of a collision, the tensioner tightens the belts in a fraction of a second for greater restraint.

The seatbelts also prevent "submarining", when passengers slide abruptly underneath the lap strap in an impact. The rear seat offers three headrests and three automatic seatbelts as standard.

The rear seats can be folded flat to accommodate a great-

er amount of luggage, or can be folded in a 60/40 split offering increased versatility. Throughout the cabin there are useful storage compartments, including one under the rear floor to hide valuables when parked.

Adaptive headlamps are fitted, which are computer controlled and swivel up to 15 degrees according to steering angle. This clever system was initially pioneered by Citroen on its advanced DS21, but because it



By Jeff Heselwood

was in the pre-computer era, a driver was frequently left trying to see what was happening ahead while the lights were turned left or right. The latest adaptive lamps preclude that.

A large, panoramic glass roof is optional, while standard equipment includes a decent audio system with CD player and four 25-watt speakers. Also optional is a higher-quality system with connection to a CD auto-changer.

The BMW X3 2.5i is one of a limited number of luxury sports activity vehicles on the market and is a model that has seduced many satisfied customers. Attractively priced at 3.5 million baht or 3.8 million for the higher spec 2.5i SE. The X3 is worth a closer look. For more information, visit [www.bmw.co.th](http://www.bmw.co.th)

Jeff Heselwood can be contacted by email to [jhc@netvigat.com](mailto:jhc@netvigat.com)

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Below, right: Sparkling sophistication – an ear ring, perhaps.



# PHONE FASHION

## It's your call

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

With cellphones being today's essential accessory, people are personalizing their standard models by changing the ring tones, start-up greetings and screen savers to suit their own tastes.

Not happy with changing just the software settings, teenagers are now changing the look of the phones themselves by using everything from stick-on "jewels" and colorful face plates to charms and stickers – anything it takes to make the phones look big, shiny, sparkly and colorful.

Amornrat "Ped" Sa-ngiamwong, owner of ABAC cellphone accessories store at Ocean Shopping Mall in Phuket City, explains to the *Gazette*, "There are many kinds of cellphone accessories, such as glittery stickers, bags and covers, charms and phone stands.

"But the most popular accessory is the charms, and the most popular styles are big, colorful and look pricey but in fact are not expensive."

K. Ped says that most of her customers are teenagers looking to add a little personality

to their cellphones. "Most of them buy colorful charms especially in pink and green. And it's not only girls who are interested in cellphone accessories; the black and white covers and lighting signals are very popular with the boys," she says.

"And some of my customers are working women too, though most of them buy accessories that are smaller and less colorful," she adds.

The most popular charms are made with crystals, feathers, glass beads or depict a popular mascot or cartoon. These accessories come in all sizes and K. Ped says it's not uncommon to see someone with a large charm dangling from a pint-sized phone.

The charms are attached by looping a string through a hole already found on the top of the cellphone. Phone designers must have seen this trend coming.

Prices for a touch of phone personalization start at 39 baht, depending on materials and styles.

ABAC, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Ocean Shopping Mall, Phuket City. Open 10 am to 9 pm, daily. For more information call 083-1817911.



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# HOT YOGA: The heat is on

By Janyaporn Morel

**H**aving a slim body, being healthy and looking young are what most people aspire to and work hard to achieve.

There are literally thousands of ways proposed to help achieve this, including changing eating habits and diets, and exercising properly.

For centuries people have practiced yoga as a way of improving their well-being, and the latest form of this to reach Phuket is "hot yoga", a series of yoga postures performed in a room heated to about 37°C and 42°C. A vigorous yoga session at this temperature promotes profuse sweating, which rids the body of toxins. It also makes the body very warm and more flexible.

Hot yoga is also known as Bikram yoga, named after Indian hot yoga innovator Bikram Choudhury. His method of hot yoga, a set series of 26 yoga postures performed twice in a single 90-minute session, is now being taught at Bliss Hot Yoga, which opened recently on the third floor of Central Festival Phuket.

The new studio comprises two yoga training rooms that can accommodate a total of 75 students as well as shower rooms, toilets and a juice bar.

Managing Director Suksa Thanavaravit explains that he decided to open a hot yoga studio in Phuket following the success of Bliss Hot Yoga in Rayong, and it has received a warm welcome here, he says. "We have yoga teachers who have three to four years' experience teaching hot yoga in the US, and we are impressed with the number of customers. We have about 120 members already," he says.

K. Suksa, who has been practicing yoga for five years, explained that hot yoga is just like normal yoga but done in a room at the same temperature as the body to help blood circulation and to encourage the body's systems to work better.

"Hot yoga is suitable for all ages, but here we target people from 20 to 45 years old. We teach the basic postures first so mem-



Tomasz and a student at a Hot Yoga session. 'it works your whole body and your body's systems, organs and metabolism,' says Lina.

bers become comfortable in the hot temperature, and teach more postures later," he says.

Lina Zapata, 33, from the US, has a yoga training certificate from Florida and was working in the Bliss studio in Rayong for about six weeks before moving to Phuket. Lina says that the beginning of the class is to warm up the body and for students to adjust to the high temperature.

"What we try to do with the heat, first of all, is imitate the ambiance they have in Calcutta, India, where hot yoga comes from. The heat is important for several reasons: it makes the muscles stretch more so it's good for the muscle flexibility; it's better for blood circulation, which is also good for your heart; and because you sweat a lot, it helps to detox," she says.

"You might feel good after

your first training, but it would not take more than three classes until you feel great about it," she says.

Hot yoga students should drink plenty of water one hour before class, but not eat for two hours before class. They should also drink lots of water after class to avoid dehydration. Wearing very little clothing is advised, although any clothes that stretch, are not too loose but allow movement are suitable.

Bliss's other hot yoga teacher Tomasz Goetel, 34, from Poland, was a martial arts and Chinese yoga student. He switched to Indian yoga about four years ago. Tomasz explains that practicing hot yoga brings balance to the body.

"This practice is also good for dieting. If somebody is overweight, they will eventually lose

weight, but that will happen slowly, and because that will happen the healthy way we hope that they will keep their weight down and not regain it later.

"As hot yoga balances the body, anything extra that the body doesn't need will come out, and anything that you don't have will come with the balance.

"The same will happen with your personality, your character, your patience, your energy, with your openness with new things. You 'open' the body through the practice of the yoga postures and you open your mind a little bit, too," he says.

Tomasz says that most yoga students feel conscious about their health after learning yoga and automatically change their lifestyles themselves. "In class we teach only how to put arms and legs or the back in a good

position, but the chance for people to change their lifestyles presents itself as they become conscious of their bodies.

"People adjust their eating habits and then their lifestyles, especially when they practice many times a week. Your health will be better because you will be more in touch with your body and you become conscious of what is good for you," he adds.

"Hot yoga helps to change your body from the inside out. It's not going to the gym and saying that you go to stretch this muscle and that muscle, it works your whole body and your body's systems, organs and metabolism. You learn what your body wants," Lina adds.

*Bliss Hot Yoga. 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Central Festival Phuket. Tel: 083-1808518.*

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# THE PAJAMA GAME

Forget about tossing, turning and fighting for the sheets. If you want to stay in love and get a good night's sleep get separate beds...

Has the following scenario ever happened to you? You're lying in a king-sized bed, and "Oh my God," your earplug has fallen out. You're sweating profusely and in a state of panic. Eventually, after scrabbling around, you find it squashed under your left buttock. You then heave a sigh of relief, press it back into your ear and collapse into a deep sleep.

I don't know whether it's like this for most people, but although I am pretty laid back in every other area of my life, when it comes to getting a good night's sleep I have become a bit of a neurotic recently. A veritable feast of Freudian analysis.

It's not that I'm an insomniac lying awake with feelings of bad karma – the reasons are more far reaching than that. Fart in the next street and I will hear it, while a shaft of sunlight will jolt me out of the deepest slumber like a laser beam.

There are no funky Habitat-style window treatments in my bedroom – it's an isolation cell of sensory deprivation.

Industrial-strength blackout blinds have been nailed to the windows and the glass top of the door, so that even if you want to let in some fresh air you can't.

My neurosis ends there. A close friend, however, takes her sleeping practices a step further.

Her neurosis takes on monstrous proportions. She would rather spend a night enduring slow-drip water torture than undergo eight hours under the sheets with someone else.



Sleepless nights battling your significant other can take their toll.

– Photo by EPA/Krzysztof Awiderski

"If it's unavoidable, I try first to block the person out of my mind, but it's no good. His breathing becomes a thumping sound in my ear; I feel the icy wind creeping up from the sheet 'tunnel'

between us; then as he falls asleep, the tossing and turning starts and his arm is flung across my face."

Gabrielle's problem came to a head a few months ago. Arriv-

ing with her boyfriend to stay for the weekend at a friend's, she took one look at the tiny double bed and nearly cried.

"I didn't mind the pre-sleep spooning, but just as I had managed to extricate myself and turn away, I felt his bottom touch mine. It wasn't an inadvertent brush of the buttocks – we stayed stuck to each other like a pair of baboons on heat!"

She waited until his breathing resembled the arrival of a train and retreated to the sofa on the other side of the room. Her description of what was obviously an ordeal prompted me to ask other friends about their sleeping habits.

To my surprise, another friend recently suggested separate bedrooms, and for similar reasons.

"At first he accused me of relationship neglect – 'I miss you in the middle of the night,' he would whine." There were arguments and a few too many retaliatory drinks with his mates. Sue then tried turning it into a romantic game. He knocks if he wants a bit of activity between the sheets.

"Sometimes I am genuinely too tired," she says, "but then there are many times that I treat him to an Agent Provocateur bonanza."

So therein lies the rub, if you'll pardon the pun. Contrary

## AMBROSIA'S

ambrosia@phuketgazette.net



## SECRETS

to the belief that sleeping together means you indulge in spontaneous wild sex all night long, it is sleeping apart that keeps the flame of passion alive.

The idea that all you have to do is roll over to get your leg over takes away rather than enhances sexual excitement.

Instant gratification is far less powerful than a sense of anticipation. With separate bedrooms you are never a sure thing. It is an insurance policy for a happy relationship.

Since Sue and her partner decided to go their nocturnal separate ways, several of her other friends have followed suit. Her best friend Alex, who has put up with her partner's twitchy leg syndrome and snoring for years, now spends most of the week in the spare room.

She is happier and sleeps through the night. Plus, she says, there is none of that dawn coitus one feels obliged to indulge in. Don't know whether I agree with that one...

Back in 1918, Marie Stopes, one of the early sexologists, recommended different bedrooms to keep mystery alive in a marriage.

Right into the 1960s many couples slept in separate rooms or had single beds partitioned by the symbolic table and lamp. I'm sure that the archetypal American film couple Doris Day and Rock Hudson, in matching pajamas and twin beds, didn't suffer intimacy withdrawal when they turned over to sleep.

It wasn't until the therapy-obsessed 1960s and our subsequent obsession with "connecting" and "intimacy" that we began to see sleeping solo akin to having a scrofulous disease. Even though it's a fact that people sleep better alone.

I am not too sure about having too much bedroom independence. Not sharing a mattress in my case is probably for my partner's sake more than mine. So move over, darling...

Ambrosia Sakkadas, a UK-born Greek Cypriot and graduate of Central St Martins College of Art & Design in London, is an artist, designer and newspaper columnist. Her first novel, *Greek Girls Don't Cry*, is available from amazon.com



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The Sultan Abdul Samad Building in Merdeka square where Malayan independence was declared on August 31, 1957. The square was previously the cricket green of the Selangor Club.

Taking a look at Kuala Lumpur's most spectacular landmark, the colossal Petronas Towers, it's difficult to conceive that within the space of a single century KL has vaulted from a wide-open mining town named for the confluence of two muddy rivers to one of the most go-ahead metropolises in Asia.

Wandering its back streets on foot or speeding along its highways, there's a recurrent theme – a Rule of Three – that keeps asserting itself. The population here, reflecting the ethnic make-up of the country, comprises Malays, Chinese and Indians, each contributing their individual religion, culture and cuisine into a cosmopolitan melange that overlays the city.

Kuala Lumpur is not only the political center of the country, but also the cultural capital and the site of its main business and commercial interests. And as well as state-of-the-art modern monoliths such as Petronas, there are older buildings, legacies of colonial times – clubs and public buildings – mixed in with antique temples still wreathed in incense and mystery. The old, the new and the ancient, a trio of ethnic backgrounds and with three separate roles – many-layered and multifaceted KL invites near continuous admiration.

It's the minor touches, which a casual observer might fail to pick up, that are so intriguing. The Railway Station, sadly no longer the point of arrival and departure for the majority of Kuala Lumpur's visitors, is an Arabian Nights conglomeration of turrets, spires, cupolas, arches and minarets. It is grandiose and reflects turn-of-

# Where ancient meets modern

the-century imperial confidence. This much is blatantly apparent, but what is not immediately obvious is the design of the roof the construction of which was impeded by British standards of the time, which laid down it had to be strong enough to withstand a meter of snow.

This in a city where temperatures are typically 30 degrees Celsius.

Other quirky historical footnotes abound. Driving along Jalan Pudu it's easy to mistake the long mural as just another part of the city's artscape. In fact, it masks the outer wall of Pudu Prison, and

was painted by a solitary inmate who was released every day to decorate the exterior with scenes of jungle and rural life, a thoroughly therapeutic exercise. History doesn't record his crime, but once two walls of the gaol were completely covered, his sentence was up and he was released and able to admire his handiwork along with the other residents of KL.

It's easy to be lured into the city's shopping malls, where department stores and designer chains jostle in a glittering mass, but KL's other and most appealing face is bordered by Jalan Petaling, Jalan Sultan and Jalan Tun HS Lee, and best known as Chinatown.

Small family businesses

here sell caskets and baskets, make coffins or spectacles, jew-

elry and picture frames. A stool and a bag of tools and a corner of the five-foot-way, as the pavement is called, are all it takes for a cobbler to set up shop.

Indians sell flowers, Sikhs foretell the future, and the odd snake charmer induces his charge from a basket for small change from passers-by. It's said that Kuala Lumpur is one of the fastest-changing capitals in the region, but sometimes – for a moment – it seems to have barely moved for decades.

## TALES OF A TRAVELER

By Ed Peters

|   |  |
|---|--|
| CHIC<br>EAST COAST<br>DINING  |  |
|   |  |
| GROVE<br>GARDENS  |  |
| RESTAURANT  |  |
| THE RESTAURANT AT<br>GROVE GARDENS IS<br>MANAGED BY ROLF NILSSON<br>FOUNDER OF "ROLF'S KÖK"<br>STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN. |  |





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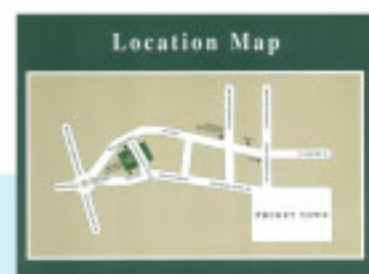
3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 298 sq.m.

| Model        | Area (sq.wa) | *Total price*(baht) | Deposit (baht) | 50% Down payment (baht) | Final payment (baht) |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Puerk-Pailin | 52.6         | 4,090,000           | 100,000        | 2,045,000               | 1,945,000            |
| Puerk-Lawan  | 120.6        | 8,900,000           | 100,000        | 4,450,000               | 4,350,000            |
| Puerk-Pirom  | 99.6         | 9,900,000           | 100,000        | 4,950,000               | 4,850,000            |



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# Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid below are the family names of at least 20 mountains. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 10 or more, good; 15 or more, very good; 20 or more, excellent. Solution on the next page.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | F | E | K | H | W | J | H | P | G | I | Y | Q | H | V |
| S | T | O | W | Q | J | U | Y | C | I | C | H | O | M | Z |
| Z | O | E | J | J | I | N | I | T | A | R | A | R | A | N |
| C | R | T | P | B | N | G | L | O | R | C | B | A | Y | X |
| O | M | V | H | A | M | F | P | V | H | N | M | J | L | V |
| B | T | L | V | J | T | R | G | R | C | A | H | N | Y | O |
| T | H | A | A | N | N | A | P | U | R | N | A | A | S | E |
| P | S | D | Y | M | A | U | C | V | R | F | N | M | N | L |
| G | F | E | O | N | Q | Y | E | O | K | N | T | I | K | V |
| M | C | J | R | F | E | S | T | H | P | W | E | L | K | H |
| S | W | X | O | E | U | K | Q | B | W | O | K | I | N | M |
| N | W | Y | B | V | V | K | R | M | S | D | P | K | W | Z |
| E | J | B | I | M | M | E | B | P | W | R | A | L | H | H |
| D | R | U | Y | E | L | N | I | K | C | M | N | H | S | M |
| M | S | E | R | O | T | R | G | N | F | R | G | O | S | U |
| P | J | A | B | D | M | O | M | W | O | D | D | T | U | J |
| S | P | I | K | U | Q | S | C | H | A | G | Z | S | P | J |
| I | N | F | F | I | S | S | R | N | J | O | K | E | M | O |
| A | G | N | U | J | N | E | H | C | G | N | A | K | Y | E |
| P | E | R | P | F | T | A | B | H | O | M | N | D | L | G |
| H | G | X | K | T | R | C | B | D | T | A | R | Q | O | M |
| W | E | H | A | L | H | E | W | A | P | Q | O | Z | R | G |
| N | Z | M | B | F | P | O | D | R | L | H | T | O | D | I |
| A | F | R | A | I | N | I | E | R | E | U | L | B | D | O |
| A | C | R | A | S | O | C | E | L | V | A | Q | N | H | P |

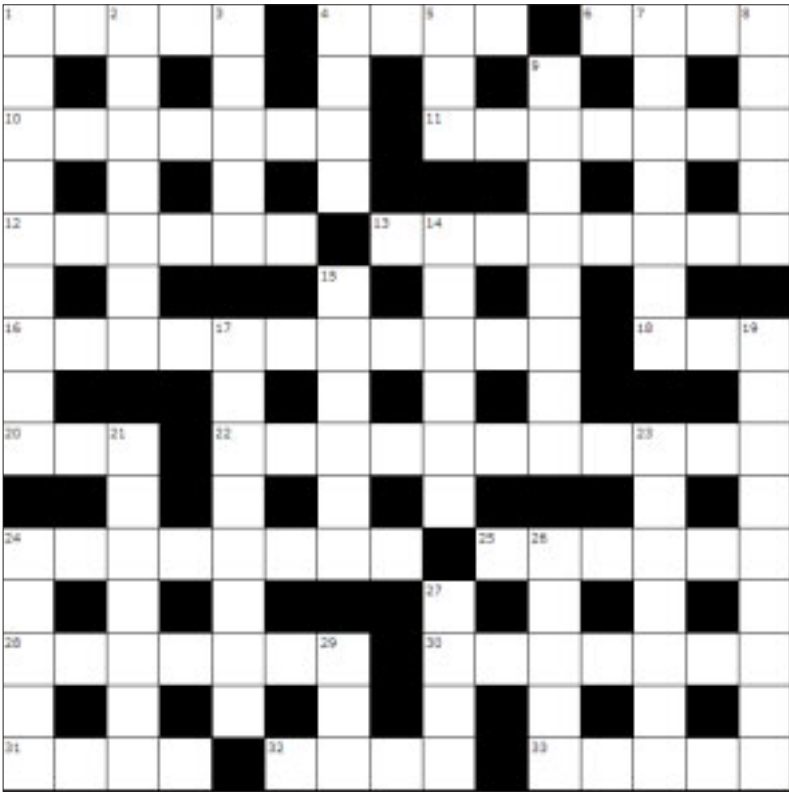
# The Cryptic Crossword

## ACROSS

1. Company in pit make embroidered loop. (5)
4. Metal blocks farm animals. (4)
6. Slap about range. (4)
10. Nude, they say – the French Oriental food. (7)
11. Mat takes in a couple of notes for daytime entertainment. (7)
12. Small boy’s pliers. (6)
13. An Athenian place, in the long run. (8)
16. Implacable about not sending money. (11)
18. Whichever way you turn it, it doesn’t work. (3)
20. A Roman Catholic curve. (3)
22. About code, not as much as unrelenting. (11)
24. The plane, confounded animal! (8)
25. Two loud noises in the long grass. (6)
28. Mistake convict with detonator. (7)
30. In pen, the French are with it. (2,5)
31. Traditions and law, so to speak. (4)
32. British Rail that is cheese. (4)
33. Pale turnover. (5)

## DOWN

1. Writer in bit of consular promontory. (9)
14. Bird place has a six with a railway. (6)



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2007

2. Motorbike knife. (7)
3. Diacritical edit back about student. (5)
4. Sop up? Yes. Flowers. (4)
5. General Electric meter stone. (3)
7. Put to death Irish feller and editor. (7)
8. Gertrude’s drinking vessel. (5)
9. Strange, to take student in and throttle. (7)
15. Flower part: don’t move, chaps! (6)
17. Dream god hopes rum is brewed. (8)
19. Shuttle channel. (9)
21. Not as dirty as janitor. (7)
23. The unborn sober my confusion. (7)
24. Formerly one hundred, the Spanish surpass others. (5)
26. Fabulous fellow, a point to bribe. (5)
27. A bit of sacrilege may irritate. (4)
29. Hesitate? Right, that’s a mistake. (3)

Solution on next page

## Scribble Space



## EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Coal, diamonds and graphite are all forms of which element?
2. Which country’s flag has a yellow five-pointed star on a red background?
3. Which movie star’s name is an anagram of “Cool Energy Ego”?
4. What is the capital of New Zealand?
5. How many cubic centimeters are there in a cubic meter?
6. What was the old name of Zimbabwe?
7. Which is the only country having a name beginning with O?
8. Which is the second planet from the Sun?
9. How often do leap years occur?
10. Where would you find red and white cells and platelets?

Answers on next page

# Rhyme Time

The words described below all rhyme with “praise”. What are they?

1. Part of sentence.
2. Cook in liquid.
3. Bring up.
4. 86,400-second periods.
5. Confused state.
6. Disturb someone’s composure.
7. One period is a series.
8. Long fixed look.
9. Pollution from Indonesia.
10. Astonish.

Answers on next page

su|do|ku

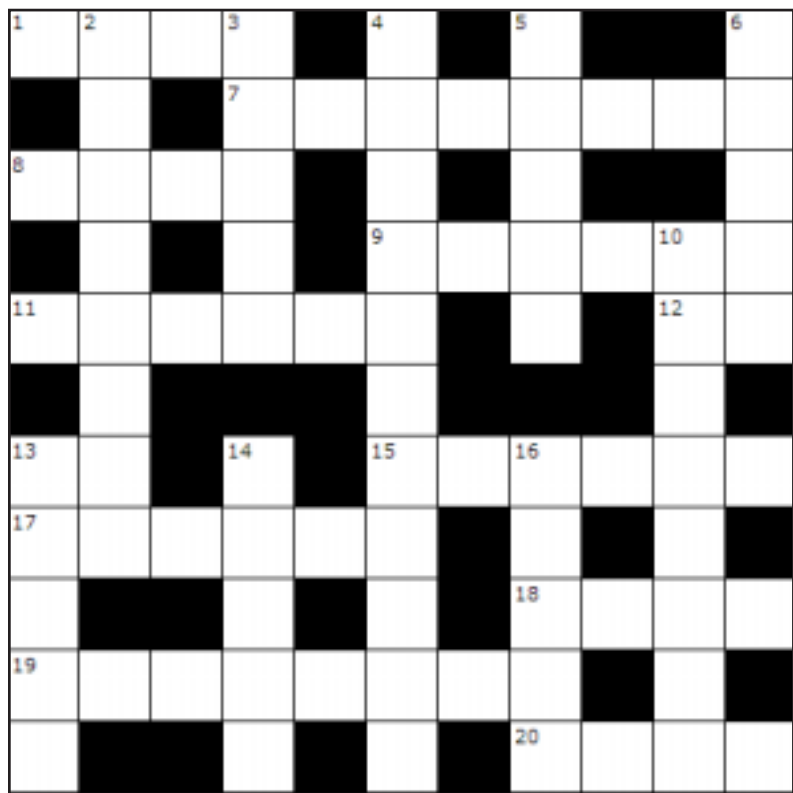
© Puzzles by Pappocom

Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 6 |   | 3 | 2 |
|   | 5 | 9 |   |   |   |
| 7 |   | 3 | 5 |   |   |
| 2 |   | 4 |   |   | 6 |
|   | 9 |   | 1 |   | 6 |
|   | 3 |   |   | 4 | 1 |
|   |   |   |   |   | 7 |
|   |   | 1 |   | 8 | 3 |

Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each “box” of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Beware: there is only one solution to this puzzle, which is on the next page.





## Quick Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1. Made cold.
- 7. Copied.
- 8. Boxer's hand.
- 9. Picture-taking apparatus.
- 11. Indian god.
- 12. Queen Elizabeth, in short.
- 13. British Airways.
- 15. Haitian magic.
- 17. French-German border province.
- 18. Not prerecorded.
- 19. Egg dish.
- 20. Just before dark.

### DOWN

- 2. Law-breaker.
- 3. Trench.
- 4. Gets around.
- 5. Damages.
- 6. Mr Poe, writer.
- 10. Goes round and round.
- 13. Pig meat.
- 14. Loses footing.
- 16. Leered.

Solution below, right

## Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



Kids! Ask Mum and Dad to help you find the answers to these questions. They're not easy but, if you do some research, you should be able to find the answers to all of them.

1. Where was the Hole-in-the-Wall Gang based?

2. Henry McCarty was better known by what name?

3. Who killed him?

4. In which town did the gunfight at the OK Corral take place?

5. Which outlaw gang was involved in the 1892 Coffeyville Shootout?

6. Who killed Jesse James?

7. What did Jesse's brother Frank die of? At what age?

8. Who was shot dead while playing poker on August 2, 1876?
9. Where did the killing take place?

10. What was Calamity Jane's first name?

11. What job did she take in 1870?

12. Doc Holliday graduated in 1872 from which college in Pennsylvania?

13. Holliday was quoted as saying, "I coughed that out with my lungs, years ago." What was the "that" he referred to?

14. Who played Doc Holliday in the 1994 movie Wyatt Earp?

15. Which lawman said, "If you want to hit a man in the chest, aim for his groin"?
16. What did John Wesley Hardin leave behind when Wild Bill Hickok ran him out of Abilene?

17. What did Hardin study while serving 17 years in jail?

18. How many people did Sheriff Commodore Perry Ownes kill in one minute in September 1887?

19. In 1880, Hoodoo Brown and the Dodge City Gang monopolized gambling and prostitution in which city?

20. Who were the leaders of the infamous Wild Bunch?

Answers below, left

# Puzzle Solutions

### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Hole-in-the-Wall Pass, Johnson County, Wyoming; 2. Billy the Kid; 3. Pat Garrett; 4. Tombstone, Arizona; 5. The Dalton Gang; 6. Bob Ford; 7. Natural causes. He was 72; 8. Wild Bill Hickok; 9. Nuttal & Mann's Saloon, Deadwood; 10. Martha; 11. She signed up as a scout for the US Army; 12. The College of Dental Surgery; 13. His conscience; 14. Dennis Quaid; 15. Bat Masterson; 16. His trousers; 17. Law; 18. Three; 19. Las Vegas; 20. Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

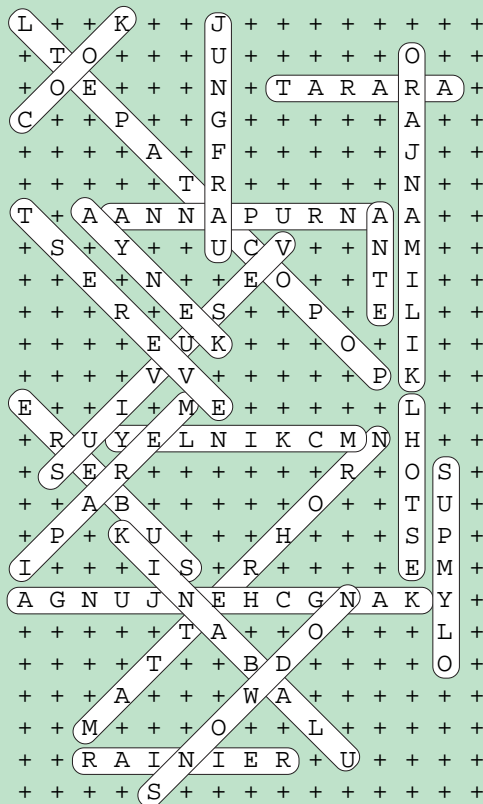
### Rhyme Time Answers

1. Phrase; 2. Braise; 3. Raise; 4. Days; 5. Daze; 6. Faze; 7. Phase; 8. Gaze; 9. Haze; 10. Amaze.

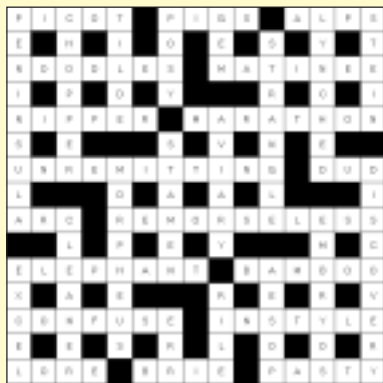
### EZ Trivia Answers

1. Carbon; 2. Vietnam; 3. George Clooney; 4. Wellington; 5. One million; 6. Rhodesia; 7. Oman; 8. Venus; 9. Every four years; 10. In blood.

### Hidden Words SOLUTION



### Solution to this week's Cryptic Crossword



### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle





# The story of a ghastly age

David Mitchell's third novel, *Cloud Atlas*, was the most amazing novel I'd read in years – six novels packed into one, varying wildly in time, space and narrative style.

*The New York Times* hailed Mitchell as a genius. His novel was cruelly deprived of the 2004 Man Booker Prize by a perfectly competent but much inferior *The Line of Beauty* by Alan Hollinghurst.

Now Mitchell is back with a surprisingly modest and conventional novel about growing up in a village in Worcestershire, England.

The time is 1982 and the first person narrator is 13-year-old Jason Taylor. *Black Swan Green* (Random House, New York, 2006, pp294) is the type of book young authors often write as their first novel.

Mitchell has only turned to the form in his fourth novel but that doesn't lessen its achievement. This is a very funny and sensitive tale about the horrors of being 13.

Jason Taylor is under the thumb of bickering parents and sadistic teachers. He's also the subject of taunts and beatings by his bigger classmates. It's a tough

schoolyard out there. Not to mention natural disasters such as a farmer's three Dobermans:

"I ran full pelt but I knew 13-year-old boys can't outrun three snarling Dobermans. A snatch of turfy drumming, then

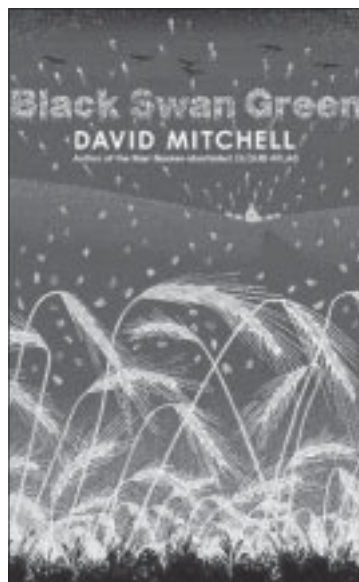
I went flying over a ruck and the ground booted the air out of me and I got a glimpse of a leaping dog's flank. I screamed like a girl and scrunched up into a ball and waited for the fangs to sink into my side and ankles and slaver and rip and tear and pluck and for the

snarling bagsnatchers to run off with my scote and liver and heart and kidneys."

On the upside are movies and TV shows and records that are "epic" and "ace" and, as time goes by, "far out".

This goes, too, for the Falklands War, which is raging at the time. The last thing you want to do is be caught doing or saying anything that is "gay". Writing poetry, for example.

"Wish I had been born a girl, some-



times. They're generally loads more civilized. But if I ever admitted that out load I'd get BUMHOLE PLUMMER scrawled on my locker. That happened to Floyd Chaceley for admitting he liked Johann Sebastian Bach. Mind you, if they know Eliot Bolivar, who gets poems published in Black Swan Green Parish Magazine, was me, they'd gouge me to death behind the tennis courts with blunt

woodwork tools and spray the Sex Pistols logo on my grave-stone."

His other curse is that he is a stammerer, an affliction he can keep secret only by carefully choosing his words. He calls his tormentor "The Hangman" after the word game because he had guessed the answer in class but couldn't bring himself to say "nightingale".

He is also afflicted by "The Maggot", which is his craven, fearful, status-seeking side. His sole consolation is "The Unborn Twin" who occasionally urges him

to do the right thing or defy his tormentors.

His greatest enemy is Ross Wilcox who hates him for no reason: "Like Nazis hate Jews. Like dogs hate foxes." Ross Wilcox sees him waiting in line with his mother to see *Chariots of Fire*. Going to a movie with your mother is the ultimate "gay" crime.

At school, Wilcox and his gang of thugs confront Jason in front of his locker, taunting him for tongue-kissing with his mother in the dark.

Wilcox demands that he answers, coming up with the ultimate insult: "Or c-c-can't y-y-er get the w-w-words out, yer st-st-stuttery bugger?"

Finally:

"Wilcox ground his foot on my shoe like he was putting out a cigarette. 'Dickssquirt stammerstuttery mammy-shagging arse-maggot.'"

His family is falling apart at the same time: his sister off to college, his mother to work at an art gallery. Then his father loses his job and goes off to live with his long-time secret girlfriend whom he's been supporting for years.

But Jason is resilient. The woe is leavened by humor and lyrical insights. He gets devious revenge against his tormentors, and faces the new year with the hope that 14 can't possibly be worse than 13.

## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

## PHUKET DIARY

## Upcoming events on the island

### Until April 27. Summertime fun for schoolkids

There is no reason for kids to sit around idly during the upcoming school break, as the Phuket Municipality Youth Center at Saphan Hin is offering a wide variety of affordable summer courses.

Kids aged six and up can sign up for some rough-and-tumble classes in football, basketball, taekwondo, karate, kendo and Thai boxing. Easier on the body, but just as much fun, will be courses in tennis, swimming, gymnastics, volleyball, badminton, slow dancing, table tennis, traditional Thai dancing and swing dance.

Thai musical instruments and art classes are on offer for the more refined prodigies on the island, and for the more technically-inclined there are keyboard playing, computer training, building model planes, remote-controlled toys and robot projects. For kids heading to medical school later on, a "herbs for health" course is offered.

Courses cost 50 baht per person. Some courses, such as swimming, computers and music, have an additional fee, ranging from 25 baht to 400 baht, to help cover costs.

Sign up at the Phuket Municipality Youth Center, opposite the swimming pool at Saphan Hin, or for more information call the center at 076-250163 or 076-216866 between 8 am and 8 pm.

Participants must provide a copy of their house registration form to be admitted.



CAN DO KENDO: Just one of them many activities organized by the Municipality for the long break.

### March 31. Mediterranean Night at the Wine Connection Chalong

Enjoy the flavors of Spain with Mediterranean Night at Wine Connection. Tapas and paella at 399 baht per person. Free flow sangria at 250 baht. Live Music. Reservations recommended. Call 076-282411/2. For more information email FB. Phuket@wineconnection.com

### Until April 8. Island Furniture Cricket League

The Island Furniture Cricket League returns for its second

season that will finish up in early April.

Four local teams will play 12 round robin matches with the top two teams playing in the final. Games are 11 a side, 35 overs and played every Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm in Cherng Talay during the season.

Email Mark for more details at scarfy@loxinfo.co.th or see the website at www.phuketcricket.com

### April 13 to 15. Songkran (Thai New Year)

Also known as the Water

Festival. Held during the driest months in Thailand, Songkran is celebrated by Thais throughout



the country by pouring – traditionally only a little, but these days a lot – of water on other people to wish them good luck for the New Year.

### Until November 18. ACYC Race Series

The Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) has announced the race dates for its Keelboat and Multi-hull Race Series 2007, as well as other key dates on Phuket's yachting calendar.

Race dates for the series are: March 25, April 8, April 22, June 10, June 24, July 15, August 5, August 19, September 2, September 23, October 7, October 23, November 4, and November 18.

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## At the crossroads

While the jury is still out on the merits of the one-way traffic system in Patong [see Inside Story, pages 4-5], most objective observers would agree that the biggest losers in the new order are not local tuk-tuk drivers and business owners – but tourists.

After a brief protest, Patong's tuk-tuks simply reacted to the change in the way that comes most naturally to them: by jacking up their fares. The minimum fare now costs 150 baht, a tidy 50% increase on the old fare of 100 baht, which was already the highest in the kingdom.

Tuk-tuk drivers claim the hike is justified because of increased petrol costs, but this is a ludicrous claim given that the tuk-tuk's fuel-efficient Daihatsu engines can run for hours on 100 baht worth of gas – not the 10 minutes it takes to get just about anywhere in Patong with the new speedy traffic flow.

Motorcycle taxi fares have also risen, but about 10 baht per journey. Although this is still a hefty hike in percentage points, perhaps this is a tad more palatable as they rely mostly on local fares, which have much less potential for price gouging than foreign tourists.

Now that the tourists who sustain the Patong economy have even greater cause to put foot to pavement, they will find doing so more dangerous than ever.

At least with the old two-way system, locals and tourists could form miniature herds to cross major roads and use the "go halfway and pray" technique – without having to worry about being run down by a vehicle doing 60 kilometers an hour.

Now getting from one side of Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd often takes nothing less than nerves of steel and a quick pair of heels.

As this article went to print, Patong Municipality had yet to approve the 7.5-million-baht budget requested by Kathu Police to provide the infrastructure needed to make the one-way system permanent.

Presumably this funding will come after public opinion on how to improve the system is assessed, through a poll to be conducted by the Phuket Tourist Association and with the help of researchers and students from Prince of Songkla University's Phuket campus.

Let's hope that for just this once the opinions, convenience and personal safety of tourists and local pedestrians is given the consideration it deserves.

As the situation stands, the only transport options open to tourists in Patong remain dire: allow yourself to be ripped off – or risk getting run over. Change is badly needed because tourists come here to experience Thai hospitality – not Thai hospitals.

– The Editor

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## Letters

The Gazette is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-213971 or send an email to editor@phuketgazette.net

with your views for publication in our next issue. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Pseudonyms are acceptable only if your full name and address are supplied.

### Creating quality to attract quality

I was a very successful marketer for 15 years in 130 countries. The following are a few observations.

First, when marketing anything including a vacation destination you make a list of features and benefits. These are obvious. Sometimes things are too close to us to even notice. For example, Thai-language street names are difficult for tourists, especially when giving directions to a taxi.

Tourists simply call Thaweewong Rd the "beach road". Nobody ever remembers Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd... I suggest using easy to remember names, but keeping the Thai name for Thais. Perhaps something easy such as "The Broadway".

Further inland, the new divided highway might be called "Patong Boulevard". The smaller streets that connect these main arteries could simply be numbers as is the case around the world, 1st street, 2nd street, 3rd street, so simple for everyone to know and keep track of where they are.

I think it is obvious that you want no negative publicity at all and that is why I mention the open sewers and the stench. On my last night in Patong I was having a great meal at a fabulous sidewalk café when the wind changed and my group began to gag with the smell.

We immediately paid and left without finishing. Not good.

If the non "foreign five-star resorts" are to be part of the island growth, one must encourage the use of paint and structural maintenance.

Hosing the pavement and sweeping can make a big change, many do but all should.

I have great sympathy for

the Paradise hotel who do not necessarily object to the use of the property in front of the hotel but they are greatly and justifiably upset by the dirt, mess, garbage and lack of maintenance. Not good for their guests. It can work for all with co-operation.

You have the fabulous Jungceylon complex, which sets an example of the top end, and everyone from street vendors to bed and breakfasts, boutique hotels and so on need to up their visual image. I stayed at a 14-room hotel that is immaculately clean and well run with gardens and pool at the back.

There is a river that runs through Patong and this should be made a feature with clean water and odor and landscaping along the shore. At the moment it is an open sewer.

All of these type of changes will create a quality resort destination and all tourists will be quality.

Tim Devlin,  
Patong, for now

### Superficial survey

I wish to comment on the proposed "traffic survey" for improving Patong's one-way system.

What experience, knowledge or interest do the academics or the students at Prince of Songkla University have in regards to traffic safety in Patong? Do these people spend much of their time driving around Patong?

Why is the survey only in Thai, when most people driving or trying to walk around Patong are tourists who don't speak Thai? The comments from them and their experiences with the one-way system are what should be surveyed.

Further, we are all aware of the limited language skills of students here.

It is also a fact that many students are too shy to even try to speak English. Are they going to send nice, young female students out to Patong to interview these foreign tourists? Many of whom will probably be drunk *farangs* who will only try to get these girls' phone numbers...

No matter what any of us say, they will continue with this exercise because some officials have come up with this idea, and it would be too embarrassing for them to change their minds, and completely out of the question to take any advice from *farangs*.

R Carlson  
Phuket

### Culture Crash

Regarding the one-way traffic in Patong and pedestrians being unable to cross, the solution is easy.

Once a week I have to drive down Rat-U-Thit Road at 7 pm. The new system is great for driving but not good for someone wanting to cross the road, even if one is standing at the pedestrian crossings.

Can the authorities not switch the traffic lights back on? This would break the flow of traffic.

When I come upon a group of tourists waiting at the pedestrian crossings, I stop, flash my lights and receive a pleasant "thank you wave".

I also receive an ear bashing from my Thai wife for stopping. The clash of cultures. As you know in Europe a car must stop if a person is at a pedestrian crossing.

Michael G Finn  
Phuket

Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials or business owners are published as *Issues & Answers* on the facing page.



# STOP THE KILLING!

Even though the killing of innocent civilians in the southern provinces has not happened in Phuket, it affects all Thais.

The fighting and killing in the three border provinces has been going on for a long time and we have never really understood the source of the problem.

How many people have died not even knowing the reason they were killed? How many people will be killed tomorrow or the next day?

I want the killers to think about how they would feel if their family members were killed. We are all the same family living in the same home – Thailand. We are all Thais. I want to ask the killers, “Why do you do this? What is your exact reason?”

I don’t want to think the issue is differences between Buddhists and Muslims because we have shared this land for a long time.

I want to tell the killers that they will accomplish nothing by killing innocent people. Everyone loses that way, the villagers in the south and the rebels, too.

I am not happy with the idea of creating a separate land in the south for these people. I think they can’t live by themselves and they won’t be able to develop the area without help from others.

Why can’t we live together as we have in the past? Even if



## FIRST PERSON

Thailand must get serious about stopping the killing of innocent civilians in the southern provinces, says **Prasert Jumsong**, Chief of the village leaders on Phuket.

Here he speaks out about what he sees as the tragic cruelty occurring in the south, the misdirected actions of the rebels and what the government needs to do about it.

the rebels had a separate area, do they have a good leader? Would they be able to live comfortably? I don’t think so.

Our government has worked hard to create a better life in the south and to develop a good relationship with the people, but it has not been successful. Soldiers with guns haven’t worked either.

The government must try a different method, to use psychology and to try to better understand what the complaints are.

We need a better understanding of the situation and Mus-

lim leaders need to help build a bridge between the government and the killers so they can talk and solve the problem.

The religions should work together, too. Both Buddhism and Islam teach us to be good people. If the differences are between the religions, then they need to talk and agree that we are one people and we don’t want to create a separate land for our brothers.

Village leaders in the south also have a responsibility to solve this problem. They know almost every movement and everything

that goes on in their areas. The government used to work with them, but has not been able to protect them.

Of course they are reluctant to help if their very lives are threatened. Even soldiers haven’t helped. The government needs to find a way to make them safe – so they can help our country end the killing.

Phuket has good relations with the southern provinces and the Muslim people here don’t agree with the rebels.

They want the killing to stop because Thais are a peaceful

people and Thailand is a peaceful country.

Nobody knows exactly how things got this far out of hand. We need to find out now and fix it by understanding it. The Thai government should act quickly to find the cause of the problem before trying to solve it.

Using soldiers has forced the hand of the rebels. In some areas of the three provinces there are more soldiers than villagers. We should remove the soldiers from those areas and find a process that doesn’t use violence to negotiate a solution.

In the past I have visited Yala. The people there are good people, it is a beautiful part of the country and it would be a great tourist destination, but that can’t happen with things the way they are now.

I don’t want any more people to be killed. I want the rebels to stop the killing and to think about developing the provinces in a peaceful way that will create happiness for all our people.

If they really want a separate land, they should show themselves to us and tell us their reasons – but please don’t kill any more people.

We are democratic people, so if they want to make change – let the people vote. That is the right way to do it.

– *Compiled by Sompratch Saowakhon*

## The rules about importing household items

I want to bring quite a lot of used household goods from my home in the UK, mainly books, electrical items and a few power tools.

What is the easiest way to clear these items through Customs? Would I need to pay any taxes? I have a one-year non-immigrant O visa. What are the rules on bringing things into Thailand?

Peter Price  
Patong

### The Gazette replies:

The following explanation is from a document called “Importing Personal and Household Effects (4 page) [05/09/2006]” downloaded from the Thai Customs website at [www.customs.go.th/Customs-Eng/OpenFile.jsp?docId=A00040](http://www.customs.go.th/Customs-Eng/OpenFile.jsp?docId=A00040)

#### Importing Personal and Household Effects

Personal Effects refer to items clearly identifiable as personal use, such as clothes, shoes, books, etc. These items at the time of his/her entry into the Kingdom of Thailand are exempted from customs duties.

However, such items do not include automobiles, weapons and ammunition, and food items.

Personal effects not granted

exemption from payment of customs duty

**Pets:** Pets brought into the Kingdom of Thailand are not exempted from customs duties. A permit must be granted from the Livestock Department prior to the date of entry.

**Food:** Any person wishing to bring food items into the Kingdom of Thailand must obtain a permit from the Food and Drug Administration, Ministry of Public Health.

**Weapons:** A permit must be granted from the Department of Provincial Administration.

**Automobiles:** A permit must be granted from the Commerce

Ministry and the Department of Industrial Works, Ministry of Industry.

**Household Effects** refers to other properties not considered personal effects and which were in the owner’s possession prior to his/her change of residence, such as televisions, refrigerators, air conditioners, household decorations, etc, which have been previously used.

In the case of individuals entering the Kingdom of Thailand, only one unit each of such item is eligible for tax and duty free allowance.

In the case of a family change of residence, two units

each of the items will be allowed to bring in tax and duty free. Items may be imported free of tax.

Any excess unit shall be subject to regular taxes and are charged according to the most highly priced unit or the unit subject to duties the highest tax rate respectively.

Items must arrive in the Kingdom of Thailand not more than one month prior to the owner’s arrival or not more than six months after his/her arrival and/of the necessary permits are obtained.

#### Documentation

1. Passport
2. Bill of Landing or Airway Bill
3. Invoice (if any)
4. Delivery Order
5. Inventory or purchase document
6. Customs Permit (if items shipped by air)
7. Identity Card (in the case of personal items)
8. Proof of Change of Residence
- 8.1 Foreigners must have documentary proof of having received permission to work or reside in Thailand for not less than 1 year. This includes a work permit from

the Department of Employment, Labor Ministry, or a visa from the Immigration Department.

- 8.2 Thai nationals must present proof of having lived abroad for a period of not less than one year.
9. If you are unable to complete these customs procedures yourself, you must provide a letter of proxy appointing someone else to act on your behalf.

#### Clearance Procedures

1. The importer/agent submits documents for inspection at the Customs Department/port of entry.
2. Customs officials complete importation forms, determine eligibility and assess duties, if any.
3. Importation forms are returned to the importer/agent bringing goods into the country, who then takes them to be recorded and pay customs duties, if any.
4. Importer/Agent collects items from the port of entry.

Personal/Household Effects are exempted from all customs duties. Please contact a Customs Department Official directly for further information.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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# You're not living in the real world

Once came across a small advertisement in one of Pattaya's 3,000 or so free English-language publications, which included in the text the line, "Due to enforced return to the real world". This got me thinking – an unusual experience for me I have to admit – about what he meant by returning to "the real world". Where was this person headed? Mars? Uranus more likely.

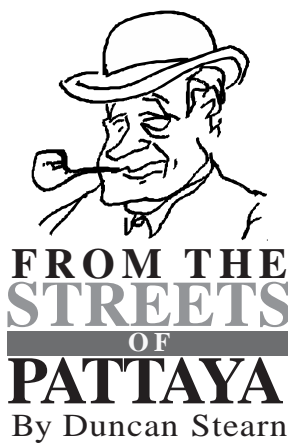
Home is where the heart is – so the saying goes. Home may be a penthouse suite atop a plush casino in Las Vegas; a mountain-top temple in Kathmandu; a rubbish heap in Manila (although I doubt anyone would have their "heart" in the joint).

So what is the "real world"? Most people still sleep six to eight hours a day; still eat three or four times a day (apart from the average Thai of course); still shower/bathe one, two, three or more times each 24 hours (apart from certain Poms, but then with a bath full of coal what would you expect); still read the newspapers (increasingly on-line in many

cases), make phone calls, send text messages, watch television.

The answer to my question came some time later, when I was reading a book entitled *Affluenza, When Too Much is Never Enough* by Clive Hamilton and Richard Denniss. The basic premise of the book is the Western world is in the grip of a consumption binge. While most people are wealthier than they've ever been, "rates of stress, depression and obesity are up as we wrestle with the emptiness and endless disappointments of the consumer life".

At the beginning of one chapter is text taken from an advertisement for a shopping center in Sydney: "It's not your fault you love everything, you're just a positive person. In fact, we have so many pro-purchase customers at WBJ we've



created Handsfree Shopping..."

What the hell is a "pro-purchase" customer? Can you really imagine people going into a shopping center to browse with the avowed intention of not buying anything? If there is such an animal as a "pro-purchase" customer, then the opposite must be an "anti-purchase" customer. That, clearly, doesn't make any sense. This is the "real world"?

In the same book was a piece about how pet-food manufacturers are producing top-of-the-range products marketed to gullible consumers.

Take the K-9 Float Coat, whose makers believe, "Four-legged companions deserve the same level of safety and protection afforded by life jackets for humans". Or the Hero dog fragrance, "A

distinctly masculine fragrance for your dog or cat..."

While I abhor the generally horrible treatment dished out to the average Pattaya soi dog, I can't help but be just as gobsmacked by the efforts to anthropomorphise the suburban pampered pooch or svelte pussycat in the West. This is the "real world"?

The British writer and commentator Bernard Levin noted in a column in 1987: "There is a widespread belief in some political circles that manifest nonsense will somehow turn into profound wisdom if it has enough capital letters sprinkled over it...[for example] Caring Society, Racism Awareness, Outreach...Cultural Revolution, Great Leap Forward and Five-Year Plan." This is the "real world"?

Pattaya may not be the "real world" to a stockbroker who commutes each day from Freezing-On-Sea, Essex into the City of London bedecked in a pin-stripe suit, but I know what "real world" I'd rather be inhabiting.

## Debunking the Myth of the Crypt Dwellers

I owe the US government a big fat apology. Boy, did I ever get things wrong about them. For many years, I believed the myth that deep beneath the bowels of the Pentagon, or the State Department, or wherever, the government maintained a large underground bunker called the Crypt.

In this top-secret redoubt lived a group of brilliant linguists, all certifiably insane, their creativity levels kept at cutting edge through regular feedings of LSD. Their mission: to invent euphemisms, also known as weasel words, to impart verbal majesty to ordinary expressions which the government wished to inflate.

The Crypt Dwellers, I thought, went back as far as the 1960s, when I was a private in the US Army. It was they who had decreed that the little folding

shovels we carried to dig foxholes with should be called "entrenching tools". It was they, too, who had ordained that we must not call our guns "guns", but "rifles".

In hindsight, I now realize that if the Crypt Dwellers had really existed, they wouldn't have stopped at making us call our shovels "entrenching tools" and our guns "rifles". No. They would have made us call our guns "enemy military personnel termination implements" (EMPTIs). And a foxhole would have been a "federal mammal underground refuge cell" (FMURC).

Much later, when the government started referring to raising taxes as "revenue enhancement". I thought I detected the fine hand of the Crypt Dwellers at work. Still later, when they talked about "plausible deniability", I was sure of it.

Even the term "ethnic cleansing", while not invented by the US government, showed the subtle influence of the Crypt Dwellers. And when a government official referred to losing one's job as "transitioning", I knew the Crypt Dwellers were alive and well and plying their evil trade.

Finally came the Iraq War, where a roadside bomb was called an "IED" (improvised explosive device) and taking a prisoner to a foreign country to be tortured was called an "extraordinary rendition".

But not long ago I began to doubt the existence of the Crypt and its Dwellers. During a televised press conference, then-US Secretary of Defense Donald



Rumsfeld and his chief aide, Marine General Peter Pace, were struggling to find a better word than "insurgents" to describe the bad guys in Iraq. They couldn't find one, and kept coming back to "insurgents".

About the same time, National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley used the catch-all "Saddamists, rejectionists and terrorists." President Bush, unable to



wrap his tongue around so many multisyllabic words, settled for "rejectionists" – even that contains four syllables; I'm surprised he didn't shorten it to "rejecters".

But Rumsfeld finally got his act together, linguistically speaking, and started calling the bad guys in Iraq "enemies of the legitimate Iraqi government". You could abbreviate that to ELIGs, as in the sentence,

"The ELIGs detonated an IED near the FMURC."

And that, dear reader, should constitute undeniable proof that the Crypt and its Dwellers are a myth. The Crypt Dwellers would have come up with a term that was far more complex, much more unintelligible, infinitely more obscure and pretentious.

On the other hand, it is conceivable that the Crypt Dwellers do exist, but were merely experiencing a slump caused by low-quality feedings of LSD due to government budget cuts.

Alas, the American government has fallen on evil days when a high-ranking official like Donald Rumsfeld has to invent his own weasel words.

Even George W has to do his own weasel-wording. The master wordsmith who coined the term "compassionate conservatism" (he probably had a little help on that one) used to call his foes "evildoers."

That's good. That sings. I would vote for "evildoers", and for "wicked ones", "malefactors", "sinners" and "hellbound iniquitors." But I always favor the terse, the trenchant and the Anglo-Saxon, so my term of choice for the bad guys in Iraq would be simply "the bad guys".

It sounds much better if you say "The bad guys blew up a bomb near the foxhole" than it does if you say "The enemies of the legitimate Iraqi government (ELIGs) detonated an improvised explosive device (IED) near the feral mammal underground refuge cell (FMURC)."

We also need a good word for "torture".

S. Tsow can be flamed at [stsow@yahoo.com](mailto:stsow@yahoo.com), except when he's trying to think up a weasel word for "torture".

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## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Playing it cool isn't usually the way you approach life, but as the last days of March pass by you will realize that others who are less direct appear to be getting further ahead. This is the ideal opportunity to take a few steps back from situations that aren't progressing as you would wish and examine the effects that your tactics are having. If you are celebrating a birthday you can look forward to a year of spiritual benefits.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): It's still full speed ahead for you. With so much to do and so little time to accomplish everything, romance is probably the last thing on your mind. There will be no escape, however, when an attractive Arian comes on the scene. Following your heart will lead to happiness. Money matters are well-starred, although you should think twice before parting with large amounts of cash this weekend.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Something doesn't wash when you have a conversation with Capricorn on Sunday. Take what you hear with a large pinch of salt and the truth will be revealed in the not too distant future. Extravagance could cause you to go into the red early next week. If you are budgeting for something special you are advised to leave cash and cards at home. The number 8 could bring good fortune on Wednesday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Laying foundations for a better lifestyle becomes of concern to you. During the coming weeks the stars are on your side if you want to upgrade your living situation. Libra has a winning tip to offer on Tuesday. A sudden upheaval at work should help you climb up the career ladder, but don't bite off more than you know you can chew. A hot date can make your day this Saturday.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Emotions change daily this week, starting this weekend when your inner rebel makes a surprise appearance. Family members and friends will be taken aback when you announce a radical plan. Another Leo is about to make contact regarding a business opportunity. On Monday you will be inclined to be in a dreamy, forgetful mood, so don't schedule any appointments that will require mental sharpness. The color tangerine encourages romance.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Over-the-top behavior of your partner or a close friend makes for a shaky start to the week. If you are prepared to sit down and listen you should be able to avoid too much stress, but if you aren't, you'll be in for a rocky ride. After Tuesday, a calmer atmosphere should ensure that relationships settle down, but a work-related matter could irritate you on Wednesday.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): You're in the mood to let off steam after a hard week at work. Aquarius should come up with a tempting invitation for the weekend, but if this doesn't happen, you will have no problems amusing yourself. Your charisma is particularly strong until the end of the month, so make the most of this advantage. Romance with a like-minded Piscean is in the cards. The color burgundy enhances your seductive side.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): If it's starting to seem that you are stuck in the same old rut, there's only one person that has the power to make a change. If you are loathe to move out of the comfort zone, no matter how boring it seems to be at present, you will receive the necessary motivation this weekend. Try to have some patience with Aries on Monday; they will get to the point eventually.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): You should beware of someone ready to shoot the messenger this week. If a friend isn't brave enough to say something directly to someone, don't be tempted into doing their dirty work. Romance goes down a notch when you realize that this is not the relationship of your dreams. It may be possible to rekindle the sparks at a later date. Thursday is the best day for business-related discussions.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Moving on from fair-weather friends may be difficult for you this week, but you finally understand that certain people only have their own interests at heart. There is something to be learned from how a Scorpio friend conducts their relationships. An unusual situation at work midweek enables you to show something of your previously hidden skills. Promotion is strongly indicated within the coming weeks. Number 4 holds promise on Thursday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): You're ready to indulge in a spot of luxurious living. Travel is in the spotlight for you by the end of this month. A romantic getaway for those who have recently become involved with someone should be carefully planned. The person concerned could prove hard to live with. On Sunday, a Taurean friend has something to say about this relationship that you won't want to hear.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Work could provide a challenge you don't need early next week. Someone in the office is not pulling their weight and unwelcome tasks are likely to land in your lap. This is the right moment for you to tactfully request a discussion relating to your responsibilities. On the romantic front, you are advised to make hay while the sun is shining. A light-hearted flirtation with a Leo adds sparkle to your weekend.

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# SIPA certification beats the visa blues

A couple of weeks ago I teamed up with Denny Bowman of Phuket Directory and Paul Spring of Thai Servers and the team from Villas in Phuket for a panel discussion at the International Business Association of Phuket meeting. The topic for the night was "ICT Infrastructure in Phuket", although the discussion included a wide variety of subjects. I even understood a couple of them.

I had a chance to talk briefly about the One Stop Visa and Work Permit Center in Bangkok, and I'd like to go into more detail here. Those of you who have computer experience and are looking for a one-year Type B visa and a work permit should know about this service. It's a godsend.

To qualify for the One Stop service, you must either work for a company that's been approved for sponsorship by the Thai Board of Investment (BoI), or receive certification from the Software Industry Promotion Agency (SIPA) that you are considered to be a qualified IT worker.

Few people in Phuket work for BoI certified companies – and the ones who do no doubt have plenty of people around who can help with time-consuming chores such as applying for a visa and work permit. But many people in Phuket have extensive IT backgrounds, more than good enough to qualify for SIPA's ICT Knowledge Worker Certification.

To "get legal" and stop worrying about visa runs and ever-changing, long-term stay rules, look into starting a company here in Thailand. It's good for you, it's good for Thai professionals, and it's good for the Thai economy.

Some of you already have businesses in your home countries – you know the tax advantages that come from having your own company. You might want to ask your accountant, back in your home country, if there are any tax advantages from working for an overseas company, such as, oh, one based here in Thailand. I bet you'll be pleasantly surprised by



To assist Bangkok taxi drivers in getting you to the One Stop Visa and Work Permit Center just hand them this map.

the response.

I've written about SIPA certification before. It takes some time, but the process is quite straightforward and if you meet the requirements it's relatively painless.

If you know computers and have a Thai company that's willing to hire you, visit [www2.sipa.or.th/knowledgeworker/get\\_cert.php](http://www2.sipa.or.th/knowledgeworker/get_cert.php) and follow the instructions.

It could take four to six weeks, but in the end you'll have an ICT Knowledge Worker Certificate – and you're just a flight away from getting a one-year visa.

The ICT Knowledge Worker Certificate doesn't count for much in Phuket – when I presented my certificate to the folks at the Phuket Immigration Office, I was met with blank stares and questions about the meaning of "Chief Information Officer". But in Bangkok, the certificate opens doors and immediately qualifies you for the One Stop service.

The One Stop Service Center in Bangkok consists of two parts. One group handles visas; the other, independent, group handles work permits.

Although the staff in both groups work together admirably well, each group serves a different governmental master, so the rules for each group are correspondingly different.

The Immigration side processes "visa extensions", that is, permits to stay. As long as you have an ICT Knowledge Worker Certificate, and all the necessary accompanying paperwork, they will give you a one-year permit to stay no matter where you live – Bangkok, Phuket or Mae Sot.

The Employment side processes work permits and work permit renewals. Unfortunately (and, to me, inexplicably), they're able to process only work permits for foreigners who work for companies that are registered in Bangkok. It doesn't matter where

you work. If the company isn't registered in Bangkok, the One Stop Service Center can't issue you a work permit.

If you work for a Phuket company, as I do, that means the One Stop Service Center can issue you a one-year permit to stay, but it can't issue you a work permit. That's the bad news.

The good news is that the folks who run the Employment Office in Phuket are very good at processing valid work permit applications quickly.

If you get an ICT Knowledge Worker Certificate and you decide to fly to Bangkok to avoid the three- to four-month wait for a one-year permit to stay here in Phuket, make sure you have all of your documents lined up before you go.

You'll need to take your passport, of course, as well as a certified company registration paper, a current list of shareholders, tax returns and the like – the

usual stuff – but you'll also need a letter and a couple of forms that I had never seen before. There's also an application form.

To make sure you have the latest, call the One Stop Service Center at 02-9371155 several days before you plan to fly and ask them which documents you must provide.

When you get to Bangkok, make sure you have driving instructions for the taxi (the easiest way is to cut out the map on this page and take it with you).

The One Stop Service Center moved at the end of December 2006. If you see references to Rachadapisek Rd on the Internet, they're wrong. The new location is in Chatuchak, near Central Ladprao – and, not so coincidentally, near the BoI office.

Specifically, you're looking for the 16<sup>th</sup> floor of Rasa Tower 2, 555 Phaholyothin Rd. It's hard to find the building. If your taxi driver doesn't already know how to get to Rasa Towers, expect to waste a lot of time being driven around in circles.

When you get to the One Stop Service Center, you'll be impressed. At least, I was. Take a number. Sit for a few minutes. When they call your number, talk to one of the immigration officers. If all of your papers are in order, you'll get your permit to stay in under an hour.

The Immigration folks at the One Stop Service Center really know their stuff. Don't waste your time – or theirs – by trying to fluff your way through the process. They speak good English. Professional, helpful and efficient. The whole process goes quickly. Amazing.

Next week I'll tell you about the rest of the IBAP talk, and try to answer a few questions that were posed by the audience.

When he isn't writing computer books and magazine and newsletter articles, or knocking Microsoft around on his website, Woody Leonhard (email: [woody@khunwoody.com](mailto:woody@khunwoody.com), website: [www.askwoody.com](http://www.askwoody.com)) runs Khun Woody's Bakery and the Sandwich Shoppe in Patong.

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## ON THE MOVE

**Saksorn Sangsuk**, from Krabi, has been elected President of the Phuket Food and Beverage Club (PFBC). K. Saksorn is currently Food and Beverage Manager of the Surin Beach Resort. He has 22 years' experience in F&B and hotel management, having served as F&B Manager at Andaman White Beach Resort and Thavorn Palm Beach Resort. He joined the PFBC 11 years ago and has held many positions in the club.



**Neerja Sachdev**, from India, has been appointed Customer Relations Management Director at Raimon Land PLC. Neerja has more than 13 years' experience in real estate, property management and customer relations. She was Assistant Property Manager and later Property Manager with CB Richard Ellis. Before that, she spent nine years as Apartment Manager for a high-rise residential building on Sukhumvit Road in Bangkok.



**Rolf Nilsson**, from Sweden, has been appointed Restaurateur of Grove Gardens Restaurant on Cape Yamu. Trained as a chef and sommelier in Sweden, Rolf opened his first restaurant when he was 24. He then ran several successful, award-winning restaurants until 2003, when he sold his restaurant and started working as a restaurant business consultant. In 2005 Rolf moved to Thailand with his wife and two kids.



# Sports store competition heats up

By Janyaporn Morel

**PATONG:** Shoppers looking for sporting goods and genuine recognized-brand sportswear can expect to enjoy a spate of promotions as two major sports stores set up in the Jungceylon shopping complex.

The first to kick its doors open was Sports World, which launched in Phuket with the mid-January opening of its 4,000-square-meter store at a cost 50 million baht.

Kamolphant Siriphanporn, Managing Director of Active Nation Co Ltd, which operates Sports World stores within Thailand, explained that the move to open in Patong is part of Sports World's national expansion.

There are 18 Sports World branches nationwide and the chain expects to have 20 branches nationwide before year's end, he said.

"Sports World has grown very quickly over the past five years. Last year we had gross sales of 1.2 billion baht nationwide. The national gross sales

volume for the sportswear market was about 10 billion baht, which means that we have about 12% market share, which is impressive for a business that is only five years old and in a very competitive market," K. Kamolphant said.

Sports goods is Active Nation's core business, said K. Kamolphant. The company is one of three owned by USI Holdings Co Ltd, which also owns Fashion People Co Ltd, which makes the casual wear fashion label FQ&L, and Global Fashion Network Co Ltd, which imports and distributes the Ashworth range of golf fashion goods.

"We try to differentiate ourselves by emphasizing our range of exclusive sportswear, which we call 'exclusive collection' brands, such as K-Swiss, Ellesse,

Lotto, Amber aerobic wear and Atlanta beach wear. We also have our two house brands, Outfitter and Kesida," he said.

"We decided to invest in Phuket and focus on Patong because it didn't have a big sports store that would be more of a one-stop shop. By our assessments, there are at least 300,000 tourists in Patong a month who spend at least 2,000 baht during each shopping outing, so the total minimum spending by tourists in Patong in a month is more than 500 to 600 million baht. So we were very interested in investing in this area," he said.

Although Sports World Patong's target market is tourists, K. Kamolphant said the company is not overly concerned about the low season. "We surveyed Patong and in the

low season it's still better than anywhere else in Phuket. We think the total spending by tourists will be about 200 to 300 million baht a month in the low season, which is still good enough for us.

"We are not too worried about competition because we have a good location, a big space and a variety of products to offer. The Phuket sports goods market is very big, so there is room for us to gain a good market share," he said.

Providing direct competition, and also in Jungceylon, Supersports on April 6 will open its fifth Phuket branch. The store will occupy 2,300sqm and cost 30 million baht to set up.

Supersports is already well established in Phuket, with a store in Central Festival, two right in the heart of Phuket City's

shopping district — one in the Robinson department store, another right outside Robinson — and another at Patong Ocean Shopping Mall on Soi Bangla.

Jutarat Wongsuwan, Vice-President Marketing of CRC Sport Co Ltd, which operates 55 Supersports stores nationwide, told the *Gazette*, "For four to five years now, we have had good growth in gross sales. Last year our business grew 15% compared with 2005. Our gross sales were 3.5 billion baht nationwide,

meaning that by our estimate of national gross sales volume, we have about 30% market share in the country.

"A strong point for us is our product range. We have imported products and good working relations with brands such as Nike, Adidas and Reebok. At the same time, our management regularly seeks out new products and we import new products to differentiate us from our competitors," she explained.

K. Jutarat added that because Phuket is a tourism province people here have high levels of disposable income, and so Supersports has more stores in Phuket than in any other province outside Bangkok.

Although Supersports at Jungceylon will be in the heart of the tourist market, K. Jutarat said that the store will target broad market groups. "Our marketing plan for each store depends on the store's location. At Central Festival Phuket we target local people, but at Jungceylon our marketing plan is different as we will target tourists and expats.

"Our marketing plans targeting tourists differ from those targeting local people. For tourists we have a series of sales promotions that each last for a limited period only, while for local people our aim is to use promotions to create customer loyalty over longer periods," she said.



**National expansion: Kamolphant Siriphanporn, Managing Director of Active Nation, which operates Sports World in Thailand.**



**High levels of disposable income: Jutarat Wongsuwan, VP Marketing of CRC Sport, which operates Supersports.**

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One area of investment that is often ignored is the world of small- and micro-cap companies. The media frequently quote the indexes of all the large companies traded on stock exchanges such as the FTSE 100 (the footsie) Index, Dow Jones Industrials (30 stocks), S&P 500, Nikkei Dow 225, and so on.

But investors will have to dig a little deeper to find the information on smaller companies. It is obtained, for example from the FTSE with the FTSE Small Cap index. In America there are various indexes, the most commonly used is the Russell 2000.

"Small caps" is simply market jargon for companies that have a low market capitalization. Frequently financial institutions do not cover this sector preferring to look at the larger companies.

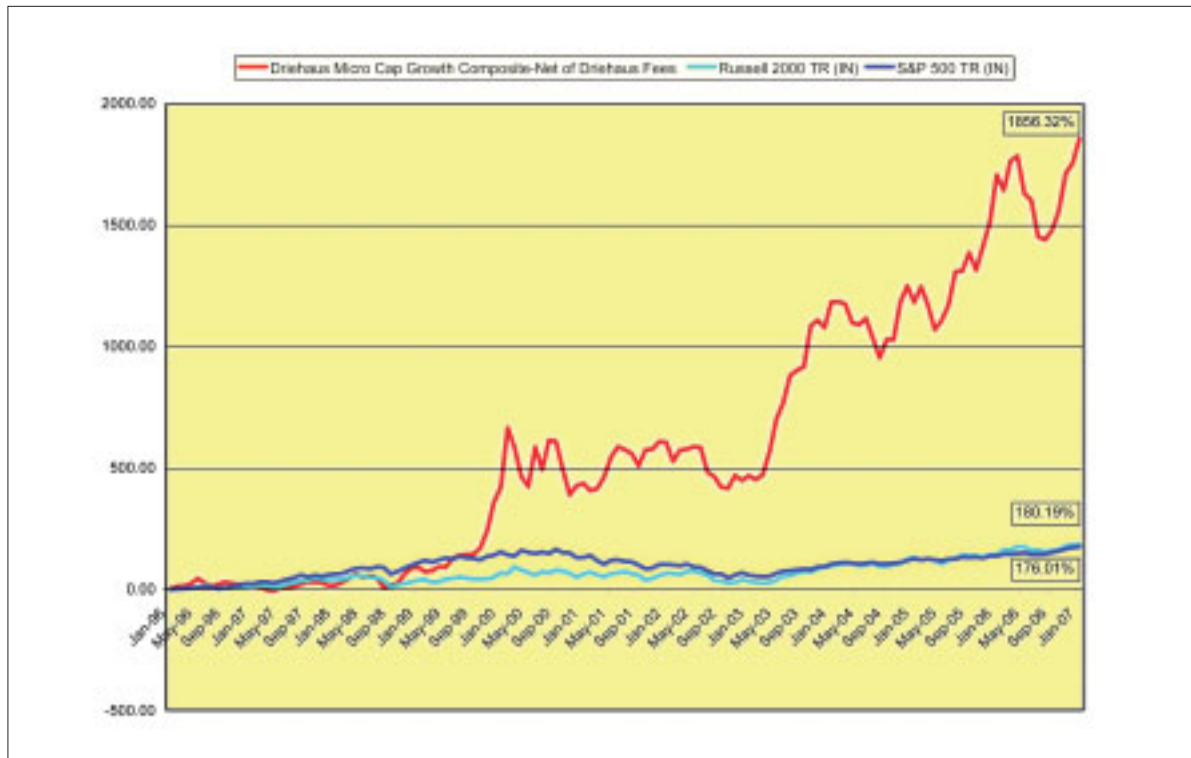
This is very understandable as an asset manager often will be managing assets totaling hundreds of billions of US dollars, euros or other currencies. All this takes effort, including the cost of analysts, economists, strategists, fund managers and support staff.

What some financial institutions ignore, others will see as an opportunity and small- and micro-cap companies are a very interesting area. For example, over the last 50 years the FTSE Small Cap Index has outperformed the FTSE 100 Index by, on average, 3% per year.

The biggest problem for investors wanting to add this area to their portfolio is research information. Certainly, anyone can access research information but what is the quality of this added to the fact that there are just so many different companies.

These companies are involved in a vast array of enterprises; where does an individual obtain this knowledge? The only practical way is to use a fund manager, and one that has demonstrated their abilities in this area by the sole true yardstick – performance.

One manager that has demonstrated outstanding performance is Driehaus Capital Management of Chicago. The Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Fund from January 1996 to January



Performance of small-cap indexes versus the Driehaus Micro Cap Growth Fund, from 1996 to 2007.

# Size does matter – and small is better

2007 returned an astonishing 1,856.32%, net of their fees. Over the same period, the Russell 2000 total return was 180.19% and the S&P 500 total return index was 176.01%.

As every investor knows, both these indexes faced a difficult period from 2000 until early 2003. If the graph was redrawn to show a maximum of 300%, the movement of these two indexes would be more evident.

The reality is that 75% to 80% of fund management groups cannot even outperform these indexes and for the ones that do, it is

even harder to consistently achieve their goals.

Driehaus Capital has joined forces with VAM, a London-based asset manager that has funds based in the Isle of Man and Luxembourg.

This makes it far more accessible for the average international investor. It also means that on death there are no problems

of leaving an estate in the US and many other issues.

The data source Lipper Hindsight shows that the VAM

Funds US Small Cap Growth B Fund in the period February 28, 2003, to February 28, 2007, achieved a net return of 160.65%

and the VAM Funds Micro Cap Growth Fund B 122.47% after annual management fees. They were placed 5th and 38th respectively out of 1,120 funds in their sector.

Small- and micro-cap companies include in their number many extremely well-managed companies that are often niche players in their own market. Sometimes they may be the "big fish" in a small, often highly-specialized, service or industry.

Every company has a story; it is the ones with the best profits, management and growth potential that attract fund-manager attention. For the investor, it is the ability of the fund manager to deliver results, that is important.

Small and micro caps should only form part of a balanced portfolio but they deserve attention.

It is far easier for a small firm to change direction, adjust to changes in the economic cycle and access opportunities than it is for their larger brethren which, because of their size, often become bureaucracies.

Richard Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial planning service. He can be reached at Tel: 076-381997, Fax: 076-383185, Mobile: 081-081-4611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th

## MONEY TALKS



By Richard Watson

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Rudolf Borgesius (right), General Manager of Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort, hands the trophy to champion Praphan Khantakul.

## Praphan retains Meridien golf title

By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

PATONG: Praphan Khantakul won the Le Meridien 7th Golf Tournament, held at Phuket Country Club on March 17, to retain his title as champion.

Praphan, who won the tournament last year, scored 38 and 35 for a total 73 to become Low Gross Champion.

He received a round-trip vacation for two from Phuket to Singapore, Bangkok or Penang, valued at 50,000 baht.

In Flight A Chana Charitngam scored 39-38-77 off a handicap of 9 for a net score of 68 to win the Low Net prize.

Siam Phuttaraksa, also scored 68, but off 40-37-77 (9), winning Low Net 2, while Alex Locchi scored 36-38-74 (5) for 69 net to win the Low Net 3 prize.

Steve Bailey won Flight B Low Gross with 36-38-74. Chuck Sharp won Flight B Low Net with 40-38-78 (18) 60, followed by Tossaporn Sakharirak with 37-40-77 (15) 62 in second place and Suchet Submee with 41-37-78 (14) 64 third.

Pongphan Karnjanapathum scored 38-40-78 to win the Ladies Flight Low Gross prize, while Narunart Suebsod won the Ladies' Low Net prize with 48-48-96 (32) 64.

Piyapon Thongtan scored an impressive 43-41-84 to win the Low Gross prize in the Junior Flight, for golfers 14 years old or younger.

Parichat Utintu won the Booby Prize with a gross score of 178.

In the more fun competitions, Flight A's Preeda Pudsiriyakorn won the Longest Drive on hole 9 by covering 257 yards with a single swing.

Nearest to the Pin prizes went to Manoon Soison 100cm (hole 2), Paul Ranger 114cm (hole 5), Stephan Bailey 98cm (hole 14), and Adisak Sutthiniponnam 95cm (hole 17).

Nearest to the Line prizes went to Piyathida Pipatsombat 2cm (hole 6) and to Blair Speers 20cm (hole 13).

The Nearest to the Barrel prize went to Stephan Haldenstein 260cm (hole 16).

# Cricketers Club take seven-wicket victory

PHUKET: The Island Furniture Cricket League resumed last weekend after a one-week break while players from all four teams were up in Bangkok playing in the first Thailand Inter-Regional Tournament. March 10 saw the Cricketers Club Phuket (CCP) take on the Patong Cricket Club (PCC) while on March 11 the Phuket Academicals (PAC) found themselves battling the on-form Island Cricket Club (ICC).

In the first match, match 7 of the season, PCC won the toss and elected to bat. However, in what appears to be a regular occurrence for the team, the openers got off to a reasonably solid start but once they were gone, a mid-order collapse took place. After Foster (15) and Holgate (10) were dismissed, the scorers weren't troubled too much until a decent partnership between Hunter (17) and Sarakhan (28) had the scoreboard looking a bit more respectable. But again, PCC didn't see out the entire 35 overs and found themselves all out for 148 in the 25th.

The pick of the bowlers for the CCP team was Subhash, who picked up five wickets for 45 runs off 9 overs. Following a lunch break, the CCP side were put to the task. Although reliable opener Muller fell for only seven runs, smart batting from Connell (41), Khan (28) and Subhash (11) saw the CCP side cruise to a seven wicket victory in the 31st over. Sixty-two extras from the PCC side certainly helped. As a result, the CCP side walked away with 18 points while PCC grabbed only three.

The Man-of-the-Match accolade went to Subhash.

Match 8 the following day saw Academicals Captain Meyer give an impressive display with both the bat and ball against the ICC side. After winning the toss and deciding to bat, Meyer made a quick 40 runs, which included eight fours to get his side off to a solid start. Some support from Daniels (20), Ali (14) and Hodges (14) saw PAC post a target of 142 runs off 30 overs. Kapoor was the pick of the ICC bowlers

picking up four wickets off his five overs. During the innings break, the ICC lads would've felt fairly confident in reaching the target, especially with the PAC side only fielding nine players. However, that old phrase "cricket is a funny game" reared its ugly head again; despite a couple of decent scores by the ICC batsmen, none of them were allowed to get a foothold except for Tanu, who made 24.

Wickets fell at regular intervals but the scoreboard was none-the-less ticking over. This was until Meyer began his bowling spell and started to clean up the tail order in rapid succession. He picked up five wickets off his four overs while giving away just 17 runs. ICC, all out for 120 in the 20th over.

So a comfortable win for the PAC side who, just like last year, seem to be picking up steam as the season comes to an end. They take 17 points from the match while ICC were left wondering what happened while taking only six points.

PAC skipper Meyer was decalred Man of the Match.

## Phuket hopes for more gold, good experience

PHUKET CITY: Ninety-two Phuket students and their 26 trainers – ready to compete at the 23<sup>rd</sup> National Youth Games 2007, being held from March 20 to 30 in Surat Thani – met Phuket Vice-Governor Vorapoj Ratthasima at Phuket Provincial Hall on March 18 to receive his good wishes and a little extra spending money.

The National Youth Games is a competition for Thai students aged 18 or under. Phuket has competitors in 13 sports: badminton, pétanque, ballroom dancing, taekwondo, tennis, table tennis, swimming, mountain biking, bas-

ketball, golf, soft tennis, basketball and running.

Last year Phuket brought home three gold medals, three silver medals and one bronze medal. This year the young athletes hope to do better.

Songsak Kitakrankul, Director of the Sports Authority of Thailand's Phuket office, told the *Gazette*, "This year we hope to have more than three gold medals. However, if this year we aren't as successful as last year, at least that our children will have a good experience. That would make us happy."

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

### New champs take a beating

PATONG: In the last week of play, Offshore made it a clean sweep against Piccadilly, beating them at home 5-4. Piccadilly, who clinched the title the week before, thanks to Offshore's win over Queen Mary, bounced back to take the beer leg – their 11th of the year, also tops in the league.

Word around town is that Piccadilly will have trouble repeating, as two of their top players, Welshman Tony and Ulf from Sweden, have gone back to Europe.

Following the league party at Piccadilly on March 24, the new season will kick off on April 10 with two new teams joining. After a high-season hiatus, Shakers will rejoin along with newcomers Simply Red, next to Piccadilly on Soi Kebsup. This brings the league back to 10 teams.

**March 13 results:** Coyote Bar\* 9 Didi's 0 (game forfeited); Offshore 5 Piccadilly\* 4; Queen Mary\* 6 Valhalla 3. (\* = winner of beer leg)

**Final standings:** 1. Piccadilly (33 pts.); 2. Queen Mary (28); 3. Didi's (24); 4. Dogs Bollocks (23); 5. Offshore (21); 6. Coyote Bar (20); 7. Valhalla (10); 8. Beach House (9).

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# Top triathletes train in Phuket

By Zach Fridell

PHUKET: Sixteen top triathletes, including former Olympians and world champions, will be training in Phuket six months a year as a part of their training regimen, culminating with the Ironman Hawaii in October.

Alex Bok, manager of "Team TBB" and owner of high-end bicycle store The Bike Boutique, has high hopes of turning Phuket into a premier training destination for triathletes and for Phuket to become the hub of a Southeast Asia triathlon circuit.

Members of TBB will spend up to six months of each year in Phuket as a part of their training regimen.

Bella Comerford, four-time Ironman Florida winner, is part of the team and says that, for her, the weather in Phuket is perfect to prepare for Hawaii.

"Hawaii is like the holy grail of long distance [triathlons]," said team Pro Andrew Johns. "But Hawaii is Hawaii, and we need to train for the heat."

The group has trained in Switzerland, where they will maintain a camp for part of the year, but Comerford said that training in the Alps has its limitations. In her first race since moving to Southeast Asia, Comerford was overcome by the heat in Langkawi, Malaysia, and was forced to pull out of the race.

Reinaldo Colucci, fellow TBB member and current record holder of the Laguna Phuket Triathlon, emphasized the need for proper hydration and careful planning in Phuket's weather. "You have to be very careful of hydration," he said. "If you make a mistake, you will feel it the next day."

Johns, a two-time Olympic triathlete, has primarily focused on short courses during his 15-year career, but as he moves to Phuket he hopes to move into the long-course competitions.

The transition, he said, will be primarily a change in focus from strategy to stamina. Olympic or "short course" races comprise a 1.5-kilometer swim, a 40-km bike ride and a 10-km run. Long courses include a 4-km swimming, a 120-km bike ride and a 30-km run.



Team TBB train for triathlons in the heat in Phuket. 'If you make a mistake you will feel it the next day,' says team member Reinaldo Colucci.

Johns said that he wanted a new challenge and felt that competing in Olympic-length triathlons was getting "a bit stale".

Changing to the long-distance course, however, is like running a whole different sport, Johns said. "The second part of the equation is the new team," he said. "Triathlons as a sport is still in the early stages. It's very unorganized and this is the first professional, well-organized team I've seen."

There are very few triathlete teams around the world, and most competitors train and compete alone. Members of TBB, however, give each other moral

support and cheer for their fellow racers. "After a race, people go off to their parts of the world, but we come back here together," Comerford said. "It can be lonely after a race."

Team TBB also plans a multi-pronged approach to community development and triathlon promotion in Phuket. They will host triathlon camps for non-professional runners to attend in

Phuket, and plan to bring underprivileged young people to Phuket to train with the team, and perhaps even join the team in later competitions.

This is how Colucci joined the team after a time training in his native Brazil. He said the chance to run with people whom he recognized in the sport was a chance he couldn't pass up.

"You wake up in the morning and train with the best people in the sport, people you see on TV or in magazines," he said.

He said that watching and learning from the pros is a big help to younger athletes. "When you go to a race, you are not afraid, you don't get butterflies any more," he said. "You're running with that guy who for you was a Superman."

The team will also train children throughout the region via donations by sponsors. Working with World Vision, the athletes will each "adopt" several children sponsored by private and corporate donations. The athletes themselves may donate to the cause to set the pace for future contributors, Bok said.

Bok and the team plan to create a Southeast Asian triathlon series with winning purses similar to the amounts won in the traditional triathlon series in Europe.

By 2008, said Bok, there will be a race series that includes events in Japan, Hong Kong, Bintan, Singapore, Langkawi and Phuket – most likely an expansion of the Laguna Triathlon, which Colucci won in 2006, the race where the concept for Team TBB was born.

If things go according to plan, Bok said, the prize money for top prize for the male and female runners will be US\$150,000 each.

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## Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

# Say it with flowers at any time

This isn't Valentine's Day. You've probably noticed. In fact it's not anything day. But somewhere it probably is some kind of day that's been invented to promote something or someone for the sake of it.

I'm not sure how many people celebrated, or even noticed International Talk Like a Pirate Day, on September 19 last year. Actually, a friend of mine did. Mind you he does have a propensity toward coming out with phrases like "Aarrgghh, matey, 'tis a mighty fine day" anyway. He's from Indiana, if that helps in any way to explain his pirate fixation.

I've always been a bit cynical about these made-up kind of days, personally. Having said that, I'm cynical about most things. I do honestly try to be fair, and try not to show favoritism in this regard – I just treat everything with equal disdain.

Annual events nearly as daft as promoting pirate-speak are rife. Groundhog Day. What kind of nonsense is that? In the US,

the "official" groundhog is kept in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. On February 2 every year, amid a raucous celebration early in the morning, "Punxsutawney Phil" as the groundhog is known, is extricated from his den by his keepers, who are dressed in tuxedos.

Phil then "whispers" his weather prediction into the ear of his keeper, who then announces it to the anxiously-awaiting crowd. Hasn't the novelty worn off by now? It sounds like a ceremony created out of sheer boredom by a couple of drunk college students.

Perhaps the best invented day of all came from *South Park*, a somewhat ludicrous and totally accurate adult cartoon series: Earth Day Brain Washing Festival. This just about sums these days up.

Even more recognized "days" seem to have a more commercial bent nowadays. Christmas is all about buying more stuff by spending money that you haven't got in the first place, and Easter revolves around the wholesale consumption of over-



**Better than a card: Hearts on a chain can say you have the key to my heart.**

sized, overpriced chocolate eggs.

Even Valentine's Day has changed significantly since the distant days of my youth. It used to be an excuse for you to send an anonymous token of affection to your secret heart's desire. You wouldn't sign the card – that would be much too crass. If you were feeling exceptionally lustful,

flowers might be delivered, but again the accompanying card would be anonymous.

These days Valentine's Day is virtually sponsored by Hallmark Cards – just another excuse to encourage us to buy and send more of them, and for companies such as Interflora to make millions out of expatriates. And I'm sure that Mother's Day only exists now to make us feel guilty and go out and spend squillions on gifts for our dear old mums. We should be doing this all year, of course.

It's time to get back to basics. Why not do something different for your beloved, when they least expect it? Forget what day greetings card companies and calendar manufacturers say it is. What's even better is that you can do it with flowers, without it costing you a single baht.

There's a plant that thrives in Phuket that would be perfect as a gift for anyone you care about – the main difference is that it's a bit more subtle than a Hallmark card bearing the words "Roses are red, violets are blue" or some such insipid nonsense.

The hearts-on-a-chain vine is just plain cute. You probably wouldn't even notice it from a distance, as all you can see from afar is pink patches among the leaves. It has a number of alternative names, such as the Mexican creeper, queen's jewels, the

coral vine, and even *cadena de amor* from the Spanish for chain of love in its original home of Mexico. Thais know this plant as *phuang chomphu*.

These things grow wild all over the island, and appear suddenly without you even realizing it. An unexpected splash of pink on an insignificant bush in the corner of the garden? Probably a hearts-on-a-chain vine that's suddenly materialized. I do enjoy a pink bush, especially when it's unexpected.

The heart-shaped leaves are about 8 centimeters long, and are matt green – a bit like mint leaves apart from the shape. Hearts on a chain couldn't be a more accurate name, really. The racemes of flowers are made from five diminutive petals each shaped like a petite little heart, there are thousands of them on a plant.

If you want to make a gift of it, don't uproot it and wrap it in plastic – plant it. All you need to do is find a decent-sized example, and prune off a woody cutting. Put it in some moist potting compost, and wait. In the early days, it will generally look a bit miserable.

But after a few weeks, put it in the ground, in well-drained sandy soil, keep watering, and wait for the growth spurt that will inevitably follow. Allow it to spread out on the ground and it will be content enough, but give it something to cling onto, such as a wire frame or a chain-link fence, and it will launch itself skywards like a New Year firework.

It does this with a curly tendrils at the end of each chain of flowers. The tendrils will coil itself around anything it can reach. It flowers year-round in the climate we have here.

The only thing you need to watch is the lower regions of the plant, once it's got into the swing of things in the climbing department. If you don't cut back the top outer parts on a regular basis, you'll find that the lower sections will get a bit forgotten, and start to become a little naked. Prune regularly and the whole thing will stay a healthy-looking green.



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## Design

By Semacote Suganya



Black and white are the main colors in the lounge. Note the wave ceiling, which is used to soften the edges of the spa's overall square design.

# Creating a unique spa atmosphere

On looks alone, The Pearl Spa at the Royal Phuket Marina has set itself apart from its contemporaries. The spa has one of most modern designs on the island.

Joe Sanya, Director of Design of Inbred.dp, who designed the spa, explained that Spa Manager Melinda Briend was adamant the spa should be different from anything else in Phuket. "Most of them are tropical, oriental, Thai style, but I came up with the idea of making this spa different by designing it in a modern style. This spa is different from the others, and it matches her modern spa concept," he said.

Since setting up in Phuket in July 2002, K. Joe has worked on several local projects, including at Blue Canyon Country Club and the JW Marriott Phuket Beach Resort & Spa.

"Before I started work on the design, I researched what spas were already here. There are very small differences among the scents, the sounds and the designs used. But here is totally different, when you first walk in you don't even realize that it is a spa," he explained.

"The spa has only small pieces of furniture and decorations that are plain, light and square to create a modern, minimalist look. I also used bright

colors, mostly white with other colors as highlights," said K. Joe.

The Jacuzzi and treatment rooms are among the best examples of the design concepts, with functionality also a major factor in the design, with every inch of space used.

"When you first walk in here, you see everything is square. The ceiling is a wave style, which helps soften the strong feeling of the style. The wave ceiling is one of the most effective aspects of the design and plays with the light to create shadows," said K. Joe.

"Everything here looks simple, there are only two colors in here, black and white set off by the bird of paradise flowers arranged in a glass vase to cut those colors," he added.

Speaking more generally on his design work, K. Joe said, "There are no limits to the imagination, but the ideas that can be used are restricted by the budget available. So the design is tailored to the customer's requirements."

"I enjoy it. I took one week to design this spa. All the teamwork helps, I could not achieve this alone," he said.

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## Construction Update

by Ted Tucker

On the beach six kilometers north of the Sarasin Bridge, work began on The Natai luxury villa project in January this year.

Work on the project, covering about four rai, is scheduled for completion by January 2008.

Built by the same developer that constructed two of Saddam Hussain's palaces, quality can be expected – though the interior design may be more tasteful.

Richard Ollerhead, Managing Director of Rotary Co, the developer, told the *Gazette*, "The location of the Natai is very special because of its fantastic beach, the beauty of the immediate area and its proximity to the international airport.

Natai Beach is developing into an area of high-quality homes and resorts, and the potential of the neighborhood is enormous.

One of several new projects along a three-kilometer stretch of Natai beach, The Natai is a small estate development consisting of three Beachfront Villas, three Seaview Villas, eight Seaview Apartments, three Poolside Apartments and two Oceanview Penthouses.

The design focus of the development is flexibility, open space, glass and clean lines to



Seaside comfort: An Oceanview Villa at The Natai, in Phang Nga just north of Phuket.

# ON THE BEACH

enhance sea views and provide for aesthetically pleasing and comfortable tropical living. The wide use of floor-to-ceiling windows lets in the sea breeze and integrates indoor spaces with outdoor entertaining areas.

An interesting design feature is the use of roof-top garden lawns and vine-covered external

walls to facilitate natural cooling of the structures.

Three Beachfront Villas will sit on the front of the property facing the sea. Each will have a 12-meter swimming pool, outdoor pavilion, reflecting pool and large terrace area. These ground-level villas will have 107 square meters of interior space and fea-

ture a choice of a large master bedroom or two smaller bedrooms, an outdoor shower in a private garden and an attached covered parking area. A modern kitchen and "media center" will be included.

The three two-level Oceanview Villas will have unobstructed seaviews from the upper-level living rooms. Each will have a private plunge pool, sundeck, private parking space, outdoor terrace, floor-to-ceiling windows, upper level kitchen/dining and living area, two lower-level en-suite bedrooms, and a private garden entry area. Each villa will have an internal area of about 160sqm.

At the back of the resort in one building facing the sea will be two Oceanview Penthouses,

eight Oceanview Apartments and three Poolside Apartments with more interior and covered space, starting at 255sqm each. Each will have a front and rear terrace for dining and entertaining, the front terrace featuring an infinity plunge pool.

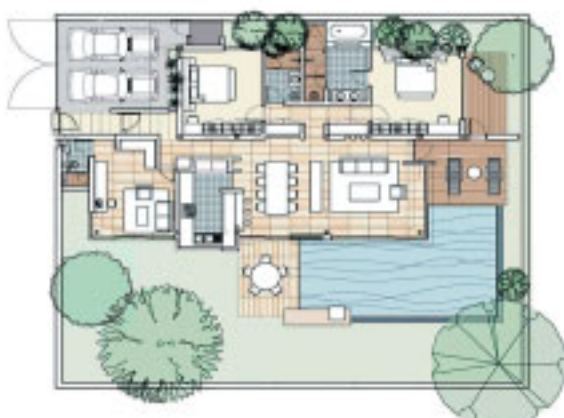
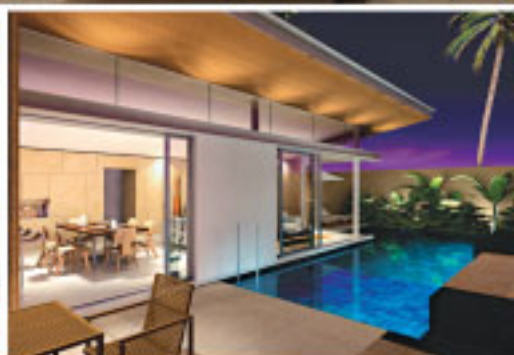
The units are designed so that they can be combined with a neighboring apartment either horizontally or vertically, depending on the desires of the buyer. The master and guest bedrooms will each have en-suite bathing facilities. Each unit will come with an open-plan kitchen and dining area as well as a private reflecting pool, underground parking space and keyed elevator access.

Prices range from 15 million baht for a Poolside Apartment, 30 million for the remaining unsold Beachfront Villa, 22 to 26 million for the Oceanview Villas, and up to 46 million for an Oceanview Penthouse. The project is fully-funded through completion without pre-sales, unusual for the Thai property market.

"The first buyers have been from Singapore, the UK, Australia and the USA, a very diverse group. We expect the main market for The Natai to be Hong Kong and Singapore followed by Australia and the UK. The project is 30% complete and 40% sold," Mr Ollerhead said.

The developer, Rotary (Phuket) Co, has been involved for more than 30 years in international projects ranging from presidential palaces to ambassadorial mansions in the Far East, Middle East and Caribbean.

For more information see [www.thenatai.com](http://www.thenatai.com)



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# Buying a unit in a hotel

**W**hen buying into mixed-use, hotel-managed projects, there are important legal issues that must be clearly understood. Buying such a property differs from usual sale and purchase, or lease agreements of residential homes and units.

First, all too often customers expecting a certain yield are initially disappointed once the actual returns start coming in, so it's best to make informed decisions by obtaining quality legal and tax advice in advance.

Buyers often confuse net and gross returns. Marketing and promotion material often show a percentage return, though this is usually subject to deductions.

With internationally-managed properties, these deductions usually include charges for reservations, credit-card commissions and a reserve for capital repairs or what hotels call FF&E (furniture, fixtures and equipment). FF&E reserves often run from 3% to 5% of revenue and reservations/commissions can exceed that amount.

Other typical deductions are common-area or cost recovery of expenses, tax on rental returns and insurance coverage (structure, contents and liability). In many instances, while a 50% or so return is shown in marketing material and highlighted in the contract, this would be the gross return. After deductions the net could be 40% or less.

These deductions are generally in keeping with sound hotel-management and accounting principals, but it's important to know what your actual bottom-line return will be.

While residential estates

use sinking funds, mostly charging annually or through special assessments, hotels use FF & E reserves, saving money from day one in order to address long-term refurbishment.

Hotel-managed units suffer more wear and tear than residential units and soft goods must often be replaced every three to four years. The reserve can cover this in later years, but will not cover major replacements or renovations, so returns in later years are often subject to significant assessments, which affect profit.

Hotels, being capital-intensive assets, often see spikes in expenses over time, which makes mixed-use projects less attractive to investors planning long-term, straight-line growth.

Buyers looking at using their property during the year, the trend being 30 to 60 days, should look at restrictions of use during high season. "Free stays" are not always free, as usage fees often apply. One must look at the usage fees and see how they are calculated. A "free stay" can cost US\$40 to \$50 a night or more.

For those buying on guaranteed returns, it's important to understand what options are available on expiration of the guaranteed period and whether the options are contractually in place or subject to change.

Ideally, units sold on leasehold are on land subdivided from the hotel. This protects buyers in case of a bankruptcy, foreclosure by a financial institution or legal claims against the hotel. It also limits the ability of the hotel owner to leverage or borrow against units that have been sold.

For long-term planning, it's important to ensure that registered right of ways, easements



Projects such as Phuket Pavilions (pictured) have mixed hotel and residential units into a single successful development.

for utilities, services and access, as well as rights of use are obtained from the hotel part of the project, as this will affect the ability to resell units.

Another consideration is whether the units that comprise the hotel will eventually be converted into residential units. Nothing lasts forever and hotel and

residential product cycles do not run in parallel. What happens, years later, if the hotel fails? It's not easy to answer such questions as these types of projects are still early on the development curve. Contracts need to include provisions for such scenarios.

People buying units on the strength of a brand must be aware

that for the most part international brands are not the owners or developers of the project. Usually, a management agreement has been entered into for a specific term and duration, which needs to be disclosed to the buyer.

What happens when brand contracts expire, change or the project can no longer be branded? Again there are no hard and fast rules here. Another issue is that when hotels are sold, there is a change of brand that may in turn affect yields.

Lifestyle investments are a global phenomenon. These are substantial purchases and, as in any transaction, it's important to understand the fine print and what financial consequences are in a contract – and then make a fully informed decision.

*Bill Barnett is Managing Director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and residential property consulting firm. With more than 20 years' experience in the region, he has played an active role in some of the island's biggest developments.*



## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett



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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### IMMACULATE VILLA



Very private location. Lush tropical garden, pool, 4 quality bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, large living room, top kitchen, huge patio. Fully furnished, 450sqm living area, 1,500sqm land. Chanote. Thalang area near Heroines Monument. Contact Tel: 084-6907057.

### KAMALA MAIN ROAD

3-story commercial building. Approximate total floor area of 500sqm. Suitable for bank, insurance offices, etc. Tel: 081-8111067.

### 4.5 RAI IN RAWAI

Square plot, access via 3 roads, Chanote title, 200m from beach. For more info Tel: 081-8918085. Email: savasdee51@hotmail.com

### RAWAI BEACH

condo. Sea view, foreign freehold. 450,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. For more info email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

### PATONG HOUSE

for sale. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. For more information and details please contact Tel: 089-6620804. Email: renoothailand@gmx.net

### 4-BEDROOM VILLA

with pool. Directly on the beach in Sichon in the mainland opposite Koh Samui. 11 houses and only 8 left! Priced at 9 million baht. Please contact for more details. Please call Tel: 084-0572743. Email: admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com

### NAI HARN/RAWAI SEA VIEW



2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Tel: 081-9583513. Email: raytim6@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at: www.houseforsaleinphuket.com

### PATONG HOMES FOR SALE

Buy properties direct from owners (no middleman). Tel: 087-2650118. Email: ant\_p\_clark@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please see our website at: housesforalephuket.blogspot.com

### HOUSE 65SQ WAH

Tropical house. 400m to beach. Foreign owner. Great price. Urgent sale. Tel: 089-1134668, 087-0493508. Email: jhone04@hotmail.com

### 5-UNIT PROJECT

Andaman Hill. Show house for viewing. 5-home project overlooking Patong. 9 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: +916-4718950. Fax: +916-4045671.

### SEAVIEW HOUSE

2-bedroom house with large swimming pool and European kitchen in the best area in Patong "Baan Suan Kamnan". 17.5 million baht. Tel: 086-2706454, +44778-9995522, 089-4727588. Send email: djjudges@hotmail.com

### RAWAI BEACH VILLA

for sale. 2 new houses. Asking 3.5 million baht with 240sqm. Price 5 million with 400sqm of land. 100 meters from beach. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

### HOUSE FOR SALE 3 MILLION BAHT



Must sell, discounted price. 2 bedrooms, includes all furniture and appliances. Quiet, gated community, pool, sauna, gym. 1 minute from Nai Yang Beach. Custom floors, cabinets, tiles, lighting. Euro/US standards. Contact for more details. Tel: 089-8742607. Email: jintananong@yahoo.com, loverofasia72@yahoo.com

### COMFORTABLE HOUSE FOR SALE

in secure and desirable development. 3 bedroom (2 ensuite), 3 bathroom. 2 floors, living room, verandahs, kitchen, study, laundry room, garden, garage ADSL, UBC. 8 million baht. 084-8439579. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

### RAWAI 2-STORY

new house. 160sqm. Price: 1.3 million baht. Close to beach. For more information call Tel: 086-9408914. Or contact via email at: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

### 4-BEDROOM VILLA

with pool. 1km from Laguna, 5 aircons, ADSL, Sat TV, living room, garden. Contact at Tel: 084-8516121.

### KATA BEACH

apartment. New one-bedroom apartment with pool, gym and services. 3 million baht. Tel: 089-4735080.

### KARON POOL VILLA

2 bedrooms, furnished, quiet location, sea view. Price: 7.5 million baht. Call Tel: 089-4735080.

### LAND FOR SALE

near JW Marriott, 14m x 15m. Price 400,000 baht. Tel: 086-7432011.

### LAND MISSION VISTA

1/2 RAIS FROM 960,000 Baht. Lovely, quiet plots with rural views. Only 1km from International Golf Course. 14 RAI OF PEACEFUL LAND. SOME SEA VIEWS. FRESHWATER CREEK RUNS ALL YEAR. For those who want to get away from the crowds. Opposite Cape Yamu. Only 580,000 Baht per rai. Phone: Warren Crowe @ Waann Marketing. Eng: 0812704291, Thai: 0897072520. Email: thailandmls@gmail.com

### NEW HOME NEAR BEACH



Chalong, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car spaces. New furniture. Quick sale at 4.5 million baht. Please contact for more details. Call Tel: 089-7830494, 081-0837354. Or send email: jimcox007@msn.com

### CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

with ocean view. 3 stories, perfect for small business. Very close to Chalong pier. 2.5 million baht. Please call K. Supachai. Tel: 081-554-4140.

### HOUSE IN KAMALA

2 bedrooms, bathroom, living room, kitchen and garden, quiet place. Price: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2827357. Email: jimdroz@hotmail.com

### LAND IN AO NANG

1 to 3 rai for sale, Chanote title, 5-minute drive to Ao Nang Beach. Ideal for residential use. Water and electricity on site, public road access. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 075-661108, 081-5374925. Fax: 075-661108. Email: dutchkev@loxinfo.co.th

### LAND SPECIAL

CHALONG 16 RAI (2 sections) BEAUTIFUL LAND. GREAT SOI. NOT 6 MILLION, NOT 5, NOT EVEN 4 MILLION PER RAI. ONLY 3 MILLION PER RAI. BE QUICK! Phone: Warren Crowe at Waann Marketing. Eng: 0812704291, Thai: 0897072520. Email: thailandmls@gmail.com

### BANG TAO, 5.3 MILLION BAHT



New house 2 minutes to beach or market. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, with hot water. Contact K. Shanya. Tel: 087-3863388. Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com

### EXOTIC KATA OCEANFRONT

5-star luxury, 1-bedroom apartment. Spa, pool, quiet area, ADSL, sea view. 38,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-9726017, 089-9171161. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website: www.koumbele.com/kata1

### RARE STUNNING

seaview land in Layan. 8 rai, Chanote, road access. More information at email: danwea@loxinfo.co.th

### ONLY TWO LEFT

Cool, clean, classic, contemporary villas. Just 2km from British International School. Chic loft style, open living, dining and kitchen areas. Three bedrooms, three bathrooms, office, separate two-car garage with laundry, maid's room. All closet fittings and appliances are included. Fabulous values at: 12.9 & 13.9 million baht. Tel: 089-972-3406, 081-5378587. Email: oasisphuket@yahoo.com

### Nara Place Sai-yuan Project

7.2 Million Baht  
Luxury tropical Asian-style house built-in furniture and private pool. Why pay expensive fees to rent when you can own your own place? Ready to move into now. Starting at only 71,000 baht/month. Tel: 08-7071-9907 www.naraplacephuket.com

### BUILDING WORTH 20 MILLION BAHT



The TEXT-AND-TALK Academy building in Patong is for sale! This beautiful building is like no other in Phuket.

### -- Bid First! Bid now!--

We will sell to the highest bidder over 15 million baht. For further information and details from the owner, contact Khun Sureeporn at Tel: 081-810-7476. Email: sureeporn01@gmail.com

### HALF OF A DUPLEX

house. 27.7sq wah, Baan Rock Garden I, price 1.4 million baht. Tel: 086-7432011.

### 12 RAI IN PALAI

12 rai of flat land for sale between Chalong and Phuket City. Road access, water, electricity, Chanote title. Ready to build. Willing to subdivide. Price: 3 million baht per rai. More info at Tel: 087-105-7320. Email: stefan@phuketit.co.th

### BUILDING FOR SALE

500,000 baht. Or rent for 35,000 baht per month. Building is 225sqm, 15m x 15m. No key money. Call for more details. Tel: 085-797-2231.

### House For Sale At Phuket Country Club Kathu



New luxury home for sale near Club House. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Fully fitted kitchen including hob oven dishwasher. Aircon throughout. Land area 175 Sq.wa with chanot title. Pool & Jacuzzi fully landscaped gardens. Panoramic views must be see to be appreciated

Price: 17 Million Baht.

Part finance available or long term lease.

Please contact: Mr. Geoff Curry

Mobile: (08) -18540061

Tel: Office contact K. Ning (076) - 323214-5 (08) -10803414

Fax: (076) 323215

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# Property Gazette

## PATONG TOP DUPLEX FOR SALE

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, top furnishings, pool, secure estate. 3.3 million baht. For details call Tel: 081-8940580.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

2-story house in Chalong. 376sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maid's room, kitchen, living room, 2 aircons, good area. 4.2 million baht. Tel: 081-0790688.

## KATHU NEAR GOLF

course. 2-story house, 1 year old. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. House is 220sqm. Land is 488sqm. Fully furnished. Price: 7.5 million baht. Call Tel: 083-3953976. Email: kawthai@hotmail.com

## BEACHFRONT LAND

for sale. 1,125sq wah, 30 x 130 meters with NorSor 3 Gor. Sukorn island, Trang. 1.6 million baht. Please contact for more details. Call Tel: 084-8516845. Email: odo\_jp@hotmail.com

## FANTASTIC VIEW

of the sea. In Makam Bay. 800sqm, soft slope, Chanote, electric, concrete road. 5.3 million baht. Be fast. Call Tel: 087-8938747.

## FOR SALE OR LEASE

Transferable lease, 30 + 30 years. 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bathroom, fully-furnished Balinese-style villa located in Kathu hills. Price: 5.5 million baht. Please call for more information and details at Tel: 087-3865200.

## THALANG LAND PLOTS: CHANOTE

With electric & water in residential area near Ton Sai Waterfall. Starting from 450,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 089-2911112.

## RAWAI CONDOS

1.1 and 1.25 million baht. 2 x 57sqm, 1-bedroom condominiums, balconies, hill views, top (5th) floor, fully-furnished, aircon, very smart, secure. Chanotes for foreign ownership. Tel: 087-8917408, 089-2925309. For more info email: gillies18367@hotmail.com

## RAWAI 3 BEDROOMS 3 BATHROOMS



New traditional-Thai design home with large patio surrounded by a pool and a cooling lotus/fish pond. Home is 240sqm, sits on a 400sqm plot, features modern kitchen & many upgrades. Priced at only: 7.9 million baht. Call Gary at Tel: 087-8987062.

## LAND FOR BUILDING

A 3 rai plot next to the beach on Khor Aen Suan Maprao Rd near Yacht Haven, Phuket. Please call K. Naphavadee for further information at Tel: 02-3991065, 089-4883119.

## SURIN SPRINGS

Stunning, luxury lakeside house. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, private pool. 5-minute walk to beach. Aircon, Sat TV, ADSL, nicely furnished. 25 million baht. Please contact for further information. Tel: 076-270655, 089-9084861. Email: kingsrqw@lds.co.uk

## KATHU HOUSE

for sale. 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge, dining room, big kitchen, furnished. 1.6 million baht. Tel: 087-2705514.

## COLLEGE TOWN

apartments. 30 apartments, 4 shophouses, city center, 95% occupied. 14 million baht obo. For further information, please contact Martin at Tel: 087-2676300.

## PHUKET VILLAGE

villa for sale. European standard, fully furnished. Price from: 3.9 million baht. 50% loan for foreigners. Please contact Tel: 086-4704-691. Email: narin@phuketvillage.se For further details please visit our website at [www.phuketvillage.se](http://www.phuketvillage.se)

## APARTMENT

building for sale in Phuket City. 18 rooms, 4 floors with Chanote. Call for more information. Tel: 084-0541447.

## PATONG HOUSE FOR SALE



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, nice kitchen. Has security, pool area and fitness room. Price: 5 million baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 086-7419391. Email: panna\_jensen@hotmail.com

## ATRIUM HOUSE IN

Ao Nang. A 4-bedroom, 4-bathroom house with internal swimming pool, on 1,200 sqm. 3.5 kms from the beach. 10 million baht. Please contact for more information. Call Tel: 081-6213432. Email: will@hoefsmid26.nl

## HOUSE WITH POOL

in Rawai. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, big living room. Fully furnished. 4 aircons, alarm system, walled garden and parking. 8x4m pool, sala, terrace on 2 levels. Quiet and safe area. Includes company papers and Chanote title. Price: 5.8 million baht. Email: bo@motto.dk

## PATONG

guesthouse. Freehold guesthouse with everything, in Paradise Complex, Patong Beach. 5-minute walk from the beach. Priced to sell quickly. Tel: 076-290393, 086-588-8383. For more info email: sumalee1955@yahoo.com

## TO RENOVATE

9 rooms, 70sqm garden. Sell 2.6 million baht. Or rent long term. Nai Harn area. Can make 2 apartments of 90sqm. Call for more details. Tel: 084-4454614.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

5.5 million baht. Tel: 086-6833964. For further details please see our website at [www.chalonghouse.4t.com](http://www.chalonghouse.4t.com)

## 28 RAI ON KOH LONE

Located on Koh Lone island. Has 120m of beachfront, opposite Phuket Aquarium. Call K. Tum. Tel: 084-0002083.

## SEAVIEW LAND IN CHALONG



3 rai for sale, stunning sea view over Chalong bay and surrounding islands. 8.5 million baht per rai. Can subdivide. Tel: 087-1057320.

Email:

[stefan@phuketit.co.th](mailto:stefan@phuketit.co.th)

## FOREIGN OWNERSHIP

Nai Harn Beach Condos, high quality and up-market, safe, secure, large 2-bedroom units completely furnished & equipped. Great location and views, close to beach. Only 8 million baht, a must see! Call Tel: 076-202201, 081-7974068. Fax: 076-202820. Email: tum@phuketlifestyle.com

## RAWAI, 400SQM

land. Chanote title, 100 meters from main road, square plot. Asking: 1.6 million baht. Tel: 081-5376866.

## KATA BEACH

bargain. 2 minutes to beach. Quick sale due to moving. 2.9 million baht. Please call for further information at Tel: 084-8405834.

## PATONG LUXURY

condo. Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, splendid terrace, pool. 5.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7972231. Email: unthaidom@hotmail.com

## STUNNING VIEW

Chalong land. 5 rai at 5 million baht per rai. Chanote title. Access from 2 roads, electricity. No agents. Please contact for further information. Call Tel: 084-9256568. Email: gloriabcl@yahoo.com

## NAI HARN BEACH

Townhouse, 184sqm, fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 280m to beach. Great location and views. 12 million baht, a must see. Call Tel: 076-202201, 081-7974068. Fax: 076-202820. Email: tum@phuketlifestyle.com

## TROPICAL VILLA FOR SALE



Living area: 600sqm + garden area 6,400sqm (4 rai). Large 250sqm terrace. 3 bedrooms & 1 master bedroom with ensuite. Open-plan kitchen, living room, Jacuzzi, swimming pool, 100sqm of artificial river & charming island, 3-car garage & exterior parking. Completely furnished, foosball table and snooker. Price: 49 million baht. Located at Pa Klok, 5 min from Ao Po, Marine Golf, etc. No sea view. Company formed since 2002. Chanote title. Project by international architects. Contact Tel: 081-8935270. Email: mrdupouy@yahoo.fr Website: [www.tropical-house.net](http://www.tropical-house.net)

## BEAUTIFUL LAND FOR SALE



Beautiful land near lagoon in Land & Houses Phuket. Electrical and telephone systems underground. 383sq wah. Chanote. Price: 12.5 million baht. Call Tel: 089-7281144.

## BOAT LAGOON LAND

for sale. 174sq wah opposite lagoon land with Chanote. Tel: 081-9521950. Email: Aristotravel2004@yahoo.com

## SEAVIEW LAND

in Nai Harn. 640sqm with Chanote, views to Phi Phi. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 076-288-047, 081-8941660. Email: cottrell@loxinfo.co.th

## 1 RAI IN NAI HARN

Just over 1 rai (2 x 1/2 rai). Chanote title, on Soi Naya, with access road and ready to build. Only 7 million baht. Tel: 086-2728094. Email: jjlock100@hotmail.com

## SMALL PLOT, RAWAI

200sqm. Chanote title. Asking 750,000 baht. Good location for house. Tel: 081-5376866.

## LUXURY KATA

Beach. Seafront, Aspasia, 5-star, 1-bedroom apartment with pool, spa, leasehold, furnished. Price to sell at 8.4 million baht. Tel: 089-9726017, 089-9171161. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at [www.koumbele.com/kata1](http://www.koumbele.com/kata1)

## CENTRAL PATONG LAND FOR SALE!

SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF LUXURY HOTEL

### Unique investment opportunity

The premises are situated in a prime location immediately adjacent to the luxurious new Tailife Spa on Soi Sunset, close to Bangla Rd. Consents have been obtained in principle to extend the existing three-floor structure, a rare opportunity to develop luxury hotel accommodation in central Patong. Other uses will be considered. The owners are offering a 10 year lease that can be renewed. Key money and rent terms negotiable.

For details please call khun Robert 081 370 3606 or Khun Darren 081 2712 469



## Surin Beach - Modern Seaview Apartments for sale

Within 100 metres of the beach, 80 sqm. of living space. One bedroom, living room, European-style kitchen, fully furnished, air conditioning, hot water system, home security system, internet connection, television and satellite TV. The price starts from 6.5 million baht for the first-floor apartment. Please contact Ann 66 81 868 7676



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Land 1 Rai - Indoors: 650sqm, 5-bedroom, 5-bathroom, Infinity pool. High-end furnishings. Great Views. Call 08 6686 2389 or 08 5783 9062.



# Property Gazette

## HOUSE FOR SALE



Includes furniture, 2 aircons and hot water. For sale at 5.9 million baht (land and house). 80sq wah (320 sqm), 2-story house with 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, big storeroom and large garden in a nice tranquil area. 10 minutes to Nai Harn and Rawai Beaches and 15 minutes to Phuket City. Please call owner for viewing. Tel: 084-9916654.

## KRABI LAND

4 rai in Krabi, 7km to Krabi Town and Ao Nang. Mountain views. 1.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-7475293. Email: chillhouse@hotmail.com

## SEA VIEW

in Patong. 15 rai, 2.6 rai, 1.2 rai. Big house (villa). Please contact via email at: make@thaicard.net

## PATONG SEA VIEW

New apartment with swimming pool. 30+30-year lease. Price: 2.5 million baht. Chanote land plots with electricity and water from 450,000 baht. Tel: 081-6917241, 089-5896144.

## PATTAYA BUNGALOW

Bargain. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 aircon units, fully furnished, satellite/cable TV, IDD telephone, fully alarmed. Situated on 64sq wah, 3 minutes from new highway to Bangkok airport. 24/7 security. Includes company, so no problem to transfer. 10 minutes to beach, Tesco, Carrefour, Big C. Asking 3.35 million baht. Call 087-1273272, or email: ken@loxinfo.co.th

## NEW SHOPHOUSE

Fully furnished. Good location on Prachautit Rd near Tesco-Lotus. Urgent sale: only 3.7 million baht. Tel: 076-248-639, 081-7195102. Fax: 076-248639. For more info email: orapar@hotmail.com

## TOWNHOUSE

With sea view. Just finished. Stunning views, elegantly furnished. Great neighborhood. Tel: 084-8419885. Email: phukethomes@hotmail.com

## PATONG CONDO

Panoramic sea view, 36sqm, best location. Newly remodeled. Furnished, pool, kitchen. Freehold. 2.2 million baht. For info call 085-7823231. Email: guntmit@aol.com

## CHALONG LUXURY

house. 2 stories, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, secure, quiet location, 2 kitchens, laundry room, full aircon, double garage, etc. Area: 292sqm. Curved teak staircase, spa, solar hot water, nice gardens, river views. 7.9 million baht. Chanote. Please call for more details. Tel: 076-383193, 089-7245655. Or see our website at: www.phuket-house4sale.com

## FURNISHED HOUSE

5 minutes to Laguna Phuket. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, UBC, ADSL, solar water heating, 3 aircons, living room, large hall area, pool 5m x 10m. Usage area: 310sqm. Land: 1,200sqm. 13 million baht. Contact for more info. Tel: 089-8738295. Email: tomasflet@hotmail.com

## PA KHLOK LAND

1 rai, 79sq wah in Pointe East estate. 4km from Heroines Monument. Chanote title. Good price for very nice land. Tel: 081-8953649, 089-8718327.

## BIG HOUSE IN KAMALA



New house for sale, 285sq wah with swimming pool. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 3 min to beach. 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-7259431.

## RAWAI CHEAP LAND

Chanote title. 540,000 baht. Approx 12m x 14m plot. Good access and in a convenient quiet residential area. Tel: 087-2806275. Email: zeno1109@yahoo.co.jp

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Living area: 200sqm. Freehold land: 100sqm. Price: 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-892-8526.

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2 plots of land with hill view. Flat, ready to be built on. Chanote titles.

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## SEA VIEW OF RAWAI

Beach. 300 meters to beach. 11 rai. Chanote title, full infrastructure. Ideal for apartment. A steal at 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-6525664.

## HOUSE FOR SALE

2-story house, Chanote, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, Western kitchen. 4.2 million baht. For more info call 081-9795755.

## LUXURIOUS VILLA

in Rawai for sale. Balinese style, private pool. Only 7.5 million baht. For info call 089-6525664.

## PATONG HOUSE

for sale. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, big living room and kitchen. On private land and soi. Tel: 081-787-9627. Email: gerar@patongfamily.com

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## NAI HARN LAND FOR SALE

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Rawai - 2 rai, 70sq wah (3,408sqm) on Wiset Rd (the main road to Rawai). 70m of the land is on the main road. Ideal for business or seaview condominiums. Price: 19 million baht. Nor Sor 3 title.

Contact for more details.

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## Properties For Rent

### HOUSE FOR RENT

in Chalong. Furnished 2-bedroom with aircon, living room, kitchen, TV, fridge, telephone line, ADSL, garden and car park. Long-term rental. Email for more info, details and pics. Tel: 081-5388169. Email: termatigul@hotmail.com

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### RAWAI HOUSE

for rent in Rawai resort, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, kitchen, terrace, fully furnished, 2 safes, 5 aircons, ADSL Internet, communal pool, tropical gardens, car park. Long lease. Price 50,000 baht per month. More info at email: hans\_lauge@hotmail.com

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for rent. 2-bedroom, furnished with telephone, UBC, aircon. More info at Tel: 089-6521473.

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE WITH POOL

in Nai Harn. Aircon, fully furnished, car park, UBC TV (gold), stereo, DVD, security system, safety box, automatic gate, phone line, washing machine, wireless Internet. Only annual (one-year) rental. 55,000 baht per month. Call Tel: 089-8730196, 081-7974197. Email: dannie@dvas.dk

### CHALONG HOUSE

for rent. 3 bedrooms, kitchen/living/dining room, laundry room, fully furnished, aircon in every room. Car park, swimming pool (shared), tropical garden. Hi-speed Internet and UBC satellite TV included. 35,000 baht per month, minimum 6 months. Call Tel: 087-1057320. Email: stefan@phuketit.co.th

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sea view. 1-bedroom apartment. 100 meters from beach. Long or short term. Call Tel: 084-8473304.

## RAWAI SEAVIEW APT

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## MODERN HOUSE IN KATHU

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## HOUSE FOR RENT

Fully-furnished, aircon bungalow available from May 2007. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Situated in an exclusive and secured estate opposite Boat Lagoon Marina. 45,000 baht a month, minimum 1 year. Tel: 081-8921732.

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Located at Anuphas Manorom Village, near Suan Luang public park and about 1.5 kilometers from Central Festival Phuket. 82sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, nice gardens. Please contact Mr Mongkol for more info. Tel: 084-0628040.

## KATHU, 3-BEDROOM

house for rent. Fully furnished. 2 bedrooms with aircon, 1 without. Cable TV, garden, secure estate, telephone. 20,000 baht per month. Call 087-8876101.

## PATONG BAY VIEW

home. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, pool, ADSL, UBC, kitchen, dining room, great location, long term, must see. 60,000 baht a month. Available May 1, 2007. Tel: 087-8821963. Email: benlee53@hotmail.com

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Beautiful, new 2-bedroom villa with private pool close to Rawai and Nai Harn Beaches. Fully furnished, aircon. 35,000 baht per month. Pool + garden maintenance included. Min 6 months. Call Tel: 081-9701716.

## NICE PATONG CONDO

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## NAI HARN HOUSE

1 minute to beach. 3 bedrooms, aircon, 2 bathrooms, kitchen. 20,000 baht/month, minimum 1 year. Call Tel: 081-3971835.

## LARGE STUDIO,

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## RAWAI HOUSE FOR RENT



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## CHALONG HOUSE

for rent. 3 bedrooms, kitchen/living/dining room, laundry room, fully furnished, aircon in every room, car park, swimming pool, tropical garden. Hi-speed Internet and UBC satellite TV included. 35,000 baht per month, minimum 6 months. Call 087-1057320 or email: stefan@phuketit.co.th

## HOUSE FOR RENT IN CHALONG

Fully-furnished house for rent in Chalong. Available from May 2007. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and 2 aircons. The house is 2 years old, set in the quiet and beautiful Baan Mannikram Estate. The home comes with its own private garden, TV, DVD, fridge, microwave, washing machine, telephone line, etc. Rent is 20,000 baht per month, with a minimum 6-month contract. For more details, please contact Marc Husted by email at marc\_husted@yahoo.com or telephone Mr. Christopher Husted after 7pm on 087-8874659.

## CHALONG HOUSE

for rent. 4-bedroom, 3-bathroom, living room, kitchen, office, 4 aircons, indoor waterfall. Chalong. Tel: 084-8444228. More info via email: saisorn1971@hotmail.com

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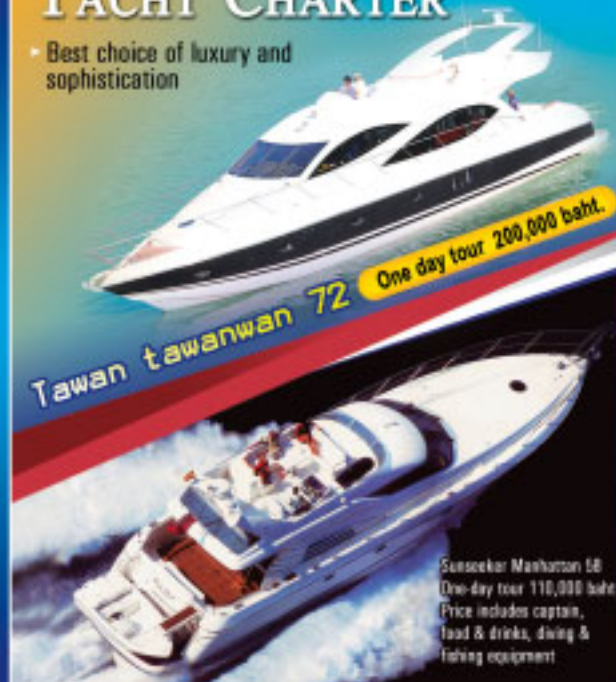
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Urgently needed. Established supplier company of hotels and restaurants for dining equipment & accessories needs a few sales people immediately. Some English and knowledge in F&B is a plus! For Thai nationals only. Time wasters need not apply! Tel: 076-261157, 089-7703681. Fax: 076-261239. Email: phuketislander@yahoo.com

**LIVE-IN MAID WANTED**  
Foreign couple is looking for long-term maid(s) with basic English. Working location: Kamala, in a new house. Must be honest and self-motivated. Salary starts at 10,000 baht for the right candidate. We can offer private maid's room with bathroom, TV, etc. Please call or email for interview. Previous experience of hotel or house cleaning and laundry is required. Tel: 086-1727479. Email: rene.koller@bluewin.ch

**SALES PERSON**  
Need male/female, age 22 to 35. Must speak/write English fluently. Property sales, 3 positions. Sun Palm Village. Please call. Tel: 076-282594-5.

**ACCOUNTANT NEEDED**  
Shibumi Villa Management is a small luxury villa management company looking for qualified candidates to join our expanding operation. We have a few small projects on Phuket and because of our success we are looking for qualified people to join our team. The following positions are available: Accountant: BA in accounting, 3 years' experience, familiar with MS Office and QuickBooks, proficiency in both written and spoken English. Tel: 076-318266, 081-8959144. Fax: 076-318267. Email: peter@shibumithailand.com Please see our website at www.shibumithailand.com

**SIMPSON MARINE**  
requires the services of a charter boat sales and booking representative. The ideal candidate will be a Thai national, have a strong background in sales and marketing, an excellent command of English both written and spoken, be self-motivated and confident. A background in a marine-related field would be a strong advantage. Own transport is essential. Initial applications should be made by emailing a full resume and references to email: phuket@simpsonmarine.com



A six-star resort-style development along the shores of Bang Tao Beach is currently seeking a candidate for the position of

## Project Admin Assistant

The successful candidate should possess these qualifications:

- Thai national.
- Bachelor's degree in any field.
- Experience in property business is preferable.
- Strong in communication & coordination function.
- Fluent in spoken & written English.

## Project Admin Manager

The successful candidate should possess these qualifications:

- Thai national.
- Bachelor's degree in any field.
- Experience in property business is preferable.
- Strong ability of negotiation.
- Management capacity
- Fluent in spoken & written English.
- Ability to work under pressure.

All positions offer an attractive package.  
For interview please send all CVs, resumes, and photographs to [info@thepalmbeachclub.com](mailto:info@thepalmbeachclub.com)

**GST International Co., Ltd.**  
326 Prabaramee Road, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150  
Tel. (076) 310 402-4 Fax. (076) 310 405

**RECEPTIONIST WANTED**  
Audio visual company is seeking candidates for the above position. Applicants must be fluent in written and spoken English and Thai and have good computer skills. Experience in administration and accounts an advantage. Interested applicants please send full CV with current salary or contact. Tel: 076-527640. Fax: 076-527639. Email: cv@enhanceav.com

**VILLA MANAGER**  
Shibumi Villa Management is a small luxury villa management company looking for qualified candidates to join our expanding operation. We have a few projects on Phuket and because of our success we are searching for qualified people to join our team. The qualified candidate should possess: BA degree in management or related field; 2 years' experience in management of people with hotel experience a bonus; strong leadership and problem-solving skills; proficiency in both written and spoken English. Please send resume by email or contact for more info. Tel: 076-318266, 081-895 9144. Fax: 076-318267. Email: peter@shibumithailand.com For further details, please see our website at: www.shibumithailand.com

**ACCOUNTANT**  
required. For import/export company. Female, Thai national with good command of English. QuickBooks knowledge an advantage, needs to start immediately. Please contact for more information. Email: merlisa@tunaco.com

**CREATIVE ENERGETIC**  
educator. Horizons Learning Center, an expanding international school in Phuket, seeks experienced creative, energetic educators, to join our team. Special interest/talent in music, arts or sports a plus. International teaching degree required, ESL teachers need not apply. Tel: 076-238756. Fax: 076-238756. Email: admin@horizons-phuket.com

**COOK (F) WANTED**  
Small restaurant in Karon needs a female cook urgently. Tel: 081-8914019. Email: tkoschig2000@hotmail.com

**OFFICE & HR MANAGER**  
Fluent in English, team player. Able to work under pressure, administrative skills, valid drivers license, visa & work permit eligible. Tel: 081-9583095. Email: hr@asia-marine.net

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Must be fluent in English, competent with a computer (Microsoft applications) and experienced in office organization.  
- Aged 25 years plus, female  
- Excellent command of English language  
- Pro-active management style  
- Pleasant and service-minded personality  
If you are interested, please contact us at Damian Barrett Electrical Marine Co Ltd. Phuket Boat Lagoon. Tel: 076-239112. Fax: 076-239058. Email: damian@electrical-marine.com



## Staff required

Banglao & Chalong branch

- Waitress
- Sales person, Thai female
- Maid

**Walking interview at Chalong branch**  
19/54-57 Moo 8, Chaofa Road, T.Chalong, A. Muang, Phuket 83110  
Tel: 076 282 411-2

**FLUENT ENGLISH SPEAKER**  
Required for full-time position in Phuket City. Good writing and interpersonal skills required. Must be organized, focused, hardworking, reliable. CVs to: [chrislia@teflmail.net](mailto:chrislia@teflmail.net). Salary: 25-30,000 baht.

**EXTRAS WANTED**  
Foreigners and Thai locals (age: 5-40 years old)  
We are shooting a French TV Series and **WE WANT YOU!**  
We are shooting in Trang, Krabi and **Phuket**.  
Staring:  
- Bernard Yesles as Phillip  
- Isabel Otereo as Mathilde  
- Josephine Serre as Juliette  
- Aureiliea Wiik as Gerome  
We are offering:  
\* Daily rate  
\* Breakfast and lunch  
\* Transport  
Shooting Schedule:  
KRABI: Ao Nang Beach, March 23-24, 2007  
PHUKET: Governor's House, March 29-30, 2007  
Casting at:  
Sino House 1 Montree Rd., Muang, Phuket 83000  
If you are interested or for more information, contact: Bomb at Tel: 085-9089 825, Numtam at Tel: 081-3412891 or Dear at Tel: 086-9933445.

**SECRETARY-ACCT**  
Knowledge of English and accounting needed. Office job in Rawai. Good salary. Tel: 081-5376866. Email: info@platinumresidence.com

**RESEARCHER**  
wanted. Good research and writing skills needed. Part-time native English speaker. Please contact for more information. Email: capitalinformation services@yahoo.co.uk



# Island Job Mart

**KATATHANI**  
PHUKET BEACH RESORT

Are you a service minded and dynamic person who likes to work as a team?  
**Katathani Phuket Beach Resort's** Front Office Department has a vacant position for a "Chief Guest Service Agent".

To supervise and coordinate our Guest Service Agent activities. Ensure all guests are welcomed with the utmost courtesy and follow up immediately on guest requests.

**Appearance:**

- Male / Female between 25-35 years of foreign nationality
- Pleasant personality, inspired attitude and service minded

**Qualifications:**

- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Good command of spoken German and other language would be preferred.
- General computer skills

**Experience:**

- Experience in guest relations work and knowledge of Front Office work would be an advantage.

Tel: +66 (0) 7633 0124 to 6,  
+66 (0) 7628 4096 to 100.  
Fax: +66 (0) 7633 0426

**Katathani** Phuket Beach Resort  
Email: [crd@katathani.com](mailto:crd@katathani.com), [www.katathani.com](http://www.katathani.com)

**ONLINE JOB APPLICATION**  
HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B  
[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com/JOB.htm)

**Aleenta**  
Aleenta Resort & Spa is a 5-star resort and A member of Small Luxury Hotels of the World  
We have two properties in Thailand: Aleenta Pranburi (Hua-Hin) and Aleenta Phuket-Phangnga [www.aleenta.com](http://www.aleenta.com)

**Sous Chef (Phangnga)**  
1 Position

**Qualification**

- Thai Nationality.
- English skills (Operate with Foreigner Exe Chef).
- Previous experience in an international environment.
- Exposure to Western cuisine and strong in Thai cuisine.
- Strong leadership, able to work individually and as part of team.
- Able to work long shifts and split shifts when need.

**Guest Relation & Concierges (Phangnga)**  
2 Positions

**Qualification**

- Thai Nationality.
- Diploma/ Degree.
- Good verbal and written English.
- Proficient in computers use (MS Office etc).
- Experience at 5 Star resort.
- Pleasant personality good attitude and quick response to the guests.
- Good team player.

Please submit your CV with salary expectation and current photo to email: [hr@aleenta.com](mailto:hr@aleenta.com)  
Tel: 66 76 580333, Fax: 66 76 580350  
**Aleenta Resort & Spa Phuket-Phangnga**  
33 Moo 5, T.Khokkloy A.Thakuathung Phangnga, 82140

**CHIEF ACCOUNTANT**  
Minimum 3 years' experience as chief accountant. Good in English. Good in reporting i.e. cash flow, budget. Knowledge of QuickBooks is a plus. Tel: 076-239111. Fax: 076-238974. Email: [hr@asia-marine.net](mailto:hr@asia-marine.net)

**DIVE SALES TEAM**  
Sales staff for dive center. Must have sales experience, be fluent in written English and German, dive experience an advantage. Salary negotiable. Please send CV by email or contact for more information. Tel: 076-344736, 086-689-7975. Email: [zambezikid@hotmail.com](mailto:zambezikid@hotmail.com)

**DOMESTIC STAFF**  
wanted. An English / Thai family with 3 young children are looking for a full-time, experienced, live-in nanny. We also need a live-in or live-out gardener/driver. Please call for details. Tel: 081-893 7027. Email: [potter.ian@gmail.com](mailto:potter.ian@gmail.com)

**INTERNATIONAL**  
Reservations. Thai, male/female with online and phone reservation experience dealing with international clients. High proficiency English communication, correspondence and computer literacy is a must. Own transportation and able to work shifts. Email your CV to: [hrda@destinationair.com](mailto:hrda@destinationair.com)

## WEB PROGRAMMER KRABI

Good English, PHP, web design. Salary: 18,000 baht per month. Call for further details. Tel: 075-637437, 081-0775698. Email: [rbysouth@hotmail.com](mailto:rbysouth@hotmail.com)

## LIVE-IN MAID

Single, mature, pleasant Thai lady required to share house with elderly farang man. Own room, electricity, food and salary included. In return, you would clean house, cook, shop and take care. Must speak some English. Would suit lady who has a day job and is looking for extra income and somewhere to live. Please contact. Tel: 081-8117613. Email: [sue@baanrimpa.com](mailto:sue@baanrimpa.com)

## SECRETARY

Required to work in Real Estate office. Must have computer skills. Able to read, write and speak English. Contact for more information at: Phuket Island Real Estate Co Ltd Tel: 076-341871. Email: [sales@phuketislandrealestate.com](mailto:sales@phuketislandrealestate.com)

## HEAD COOK NEEDED

Run and manage a restaurant between Chalong & Rawai. Please call Jeff for more information. Tel: 081-4760380.

## TEACHER NEEDED

2 English-speaking students ages 12 and 13 require teacher for 15-30 hours per week teaching general subjects, (English, math, science, history, geography). Their home is between Chalong Talay and Thalang. Position is for trained internationally-qualified teacher in your home or mine. Email: [pj\\_cctexas@hotmail.com](mailto:pj_cctexas@hotmail.com)

## MARINE TECHNICIAN

Dream Yacht Charter is looking for an experienced technician. Good English is necessary. To join our team, please send resum  to: [thailand@dreamyachtcharter.com](mailto:thailand@dreamyachtcharter.com)

**RICHMOND GROUP**  
THE FINEST PROPERTIES IN THE FINEST LOCATIONS

The Richmond Group are looking for proactive people to join our quickly expanding team as we continue to build our brand into one of Thailand's premier developers.

Richmond Group are currently offering opportunities in these positions:

**SALES EXECUTIVE**

Applicants must possess excellent communication skills and a proactive attitude is essential. There is huge earning potential for self-motivated, dedicated individuals who are able to work well in a team environment.

For interview please send CV with photo to [nathanial@richmondth.com](mailto:nathanial@richmondth.com)  
[www.RichmondTH.com](http://www.RichmondTH.com) Tel: 081-0844114.

**HOTEL EXECUTIVE CHEF/CONSULTANT**

- Professional Executive Chef wanted for property in Pattaya and consultancy position in Bangkok.
- Due to extensive upgrades and expansion into high-yield customer markets, outstanding abilities in modern culinary and menu developments are required.

The qualified candidates must have certificate of culinary training or culinary/hospitality college degree. He/She must have strong kitchen management skills, and ensures quality and consistent preparation and presentation of impressive menu items. He/She will maintain pre-approved food costs and labor costs, and has experience working in luxury hotels in Asia, preferably Thailand.

Applicants are requested to email their application with recent photograph, references and salary expectations to: [chefrecruit@yahoo.com](mailto:chefrecruit@yahoo.com)

**Phuket Gazette**

**The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:**

**Advertising Sales**

- Thai national with an outgoing personality
- Experience in sales and marketing
- Good command of written and spoken English
- Must have drivers license

**Advertising Account Admin**

- Thai national
- Experience in general office administration work
- Good command at written and spoken English
- Good management and organizational skills

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV to Wipa Putkeaw, Human Resources, by email, fax or post to:

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**  
367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000  
Fax: 076-213971 Email: [fon@phuketgazette.net](mailto:fon@phuketgazette.net)

## HOTEL STAFF

In need of receptionist, spa therapist and restaurant staff for 27-room hotel in Patong. If you are interested, please contact for more information. Tel: 081-8920038.

## MANAGER, RECEPTION

We are looking for a manager and a receptionist. Thai, Asian or foreign. Able to manage staff and take care of customers. Good salary. Please call. Tel: 085-7859239.

## QSI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

An American-style school, has the following anticipated vacancy for the 2007/08 school year (search re-opened): Elementary classroom teacher. Successful candidate will be a native English speaker, have at least a bachelor's degree and hold appropriate certification. Letters of interest may be emailed to: [alansiporin@qsi.org](mailto:alansiporin@qsi.org). Please include your resume and references and be prepared to produce degree and certification documents.

## RESERVATION MANAGER

Male or female over 25 years old, Thai or foreigner. Hotel experience of more than 3 years, and excellent command of both spoken and written English. Other foreign languages preferable. Excellent communication and computer skills (MS office), especially Fidelio system. We also require excellent organizational skills and ability to work independently. Positive, confident, outgoing personality plus good interpersonal and communication skills. Tel: 076-345345. Fax: 076-345099. Email: [agm@clubbamboo.com](mailto:agm@clubbamboo.com) For more details, please see our website at: [www.clubbamboo.com](http://www.clubbamboo.com)

## CHEF, ASSIST CHEF, WAITRESSES

New grill & steakhouse opening April 1 in Rawai, needs a chef and assistant chef who can cook Western food. Even farang chef are welcome, work permit can be fixed for the right person. Also need 2 waitresses. Contact for more details. Tel: 089-8093566. Email: [lennartviberg@hotmail.com](mailto:lennartviberg@hotmail.com)

## Employment Wanted

## HOTEL JOB WANTED

27-year-old Thai national, with 4 years' experience as Chief Receptionist. Call for more information. Tel: 086-2767510.

## SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES

38-year-old Englishman. Former country manager for a leading international company, seeks opportunities to work in Thailand. Hard working, reliable and enthusiastic. Please contact for more details. Tel: 085-9046706. Email: [euan\\_mcphee@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:euan_mcphee@hotmail.co.uk)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles for Sale

### ANTIQUE FURNITURE

Hanuman Antique is closing. Last days with mega discounts on furniture. Indo-china, French colonial and art deco styles. 50 to 70% off. Open Monday to Friday. 51 Patak Road, Kata.

**Please contact**

Tel: 087-0820100 (UK), 087-0953010 (Thailand).

### CLOSE OUT SALE!

(Business restructuring & moving to BKK) Prices reduced up to 50%. Sale from March 15 to 31, 8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday. Terms are cash only.

**Tel: 076-223025-6**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED** in teakwood woodcarvings? I will sell part of my collection and give the money to the Phendek foundation taking care of young students. If you are interested, please make an appointment. More info at Tel: 081-5393668.

### LOW INPUT, HIGH

output, automatic carwash machines for sale. Starting from 3.9 million baht. Please contact via email: carwash\_phuket@hotmail.com

### TWO MOUNTAIN

bikes. Giant Yukon 19, 2 tour and trek bikes. Price 187,000 baht each. Tel: 089-5944017.

### DIVE KIT

Complete except tank and weights. Also dive camera and housing. Tel: 086-7843037.

### GYM EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Fully-equipped commercial fitness equipment. Top quality. Low price for quick sale. Tel: 087-3833525.

### MAX 1 POOL TABLE

with pool balls and cues. 20,000 baht. Contact me for more info. Tel: 087-8838721. Email: bezpaulberridge@hotmail.com

### JBL SPEAKERS

Two JBL EON speakers (with amplifiers inside). Cost 65,000 baht each. Will sell for 20,000 each. Tel: 087-8838721. Email: bezpaulberridge@hotmail.com

### SONY FM STEREO

radio and short wave radio, useful for navigators or people staying in places without radio access. 5,290 baht. Tel: 076-24 5488. Contact via email: frlamote@hotmail.com

## Articles Wanted

### TENNIS RACKET

Looking for a good, second-hand tennis racket (Wilson, Head, Prince, etc). Please let me know if you have one available. Email: brunyth@yahoo.fr

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

**Mission Hospital Phuket City**  
Wed and Sun 7 pm  
**Bangkok Hospital Phuket City**  
Fri 7 pm  
**Patong Hospital Patong**  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun  
at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm  
**Chalong Health Clinic-near Chalong Circle**  
Tues 1 pm  
For Phuket info (English)  
call 081-9564031,  
081-8912895  
**Scandinavian speaking Group**  
**Wat Karon School-Karon**  
Tue and Sat 7 pm  
Tel 081-2732053 (Nor)  
087-2795636 (Nor)  
086-7458910 (Swe)

For info on other Thailand  
AA meetings inquire  
at Tel: 02-2318300  
(for Thai language press 3)  
www.aathailand.org or  
email info@aathailand.org

### TAI CHI

Looking to join or start a Tai Chi group in Nai Harn area. Call Tel: 089-7283997. Email: dvvrs@ns.sympatico.ca

## Business Opportunities

### GUESTHOUSE LEASE, PATONG

22 spacious, clean rooms, cable TV, minibar, aircon.  
- Elevator, wireless Internet  
- Restaurant, bar area  
- No maintenance needed  
- Very qualified staff  
- 4-min walk to the beach  
- Unbelievable potential  
- Rent for Jan and Feb paid  
Key money:  
2.4 million baht.  
Email:  
poul\_66@hotmail.com

### KAMALA REST/BAR

New, for rent. Main road. Famous pizza. Fully fitted and ready to open. Lease 5 years, 6,000 baht per month. Key money 400,000. Call Tel: 086-2878966.

### RESTAURANT & BAR

50-seat restaurant on Patong beach. Serious business offers, quick sale. Call Tel: 087-2632537.

### BOOK SHOP SALE

Patong OTOP book shop for sale. Price: 690,000 baht. Tel: 084-1705552.



**SuwanBuri Co., Ltd.**  
*SuwanBuri was founded to provide customers with first class legal advice and construction services.*  
*SuwanBuri means "Golden City". This reflects our desire to provide high quality service while following the Golden Rule.*  
161/51 Moo 10, Chao Fa West Road, T. Chalong, A. Muang, Phuket 83100 THAILAND  
Office: 076-381982 Fax: 076-381989  
Mobile: 085-0618618  
Email: info@SuwanBuri.com

### BUILDING FOR SALE

3-story, 3 units located on Nanai 2 and land for sale 98sq wah behind building. Call Tel: 086-5962035.

### SHOPHOUSE

for sale. 20 stories, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Near Kan Eang 1, Chalong Bay. Tel: 089-4736886.

### GUESTHOUSE

excellent central Patong location. Call Kevin at TSBA. Tel: 084-7300190.

### BAR FOR SALE

Bar in Karon beach, very good location, new soi! Tel: 076-286061, 081-8914019. Email: tkoschig2000@hotmail.com

### RESTAURANT

for rent. New restaurant for rent at 25,000 baht per month. 1 million baht to buy all the equipment. 4 floors:  
- restaurant on 1st and 2nd floor  
- apartment on 3rd floor  
- staff room on 4th floor  
Ready to open now! Call or email for further details. Tel: 081-8915602. Contact email: andrea.capucci@gmail.com

### FANCY BAR

for sale. Patong beach bar & restaurant. Excellent high season, steady low season, good customers from expensive hotels. Yearly net profit not less than 3 million baht. Call Tel: 087-2677965. Email for info: xyz.victor@yahoo.com

### GUESTHOUSE

for sale with restaurant/bar. Located opposite main entrance to Royal Paradise Hotel. 6 guestrooms with shower, aircon, TV. Luxurious, beautiful restaurant with kitchen, high standard. 14 million baht. Call Tel: 081-8956587, 081-8949060, 086-2697093.

### GUESTHOUSE

Patong. 16 rooms, newly renovated. Internet, cable TV, aircon, bar. 3 minutes to beach, busy location, 6-year lease. 4.6 million baht. Contact Keith for more details. For details call Tel: 087-0211763. Email: keithhbrice@hotmail.com

### BUSINESS COMPLEX

Top location! Very low rent! 13 year contract. Two shops in high foot-traffic area. 5 rooms on the second floor. No brokers! For details call Tel: 086-5888383 (Thai), 081-0820039 (English). Email: sumalee1955@yahoo.com

### WEDDING CLOTHING

for men & women from 3,800 baht to 8,400 baht. Alex, Rawai 262, Viset Rd. Tel: 076-288070.

### FITNESS CENTER FOR SALE

Gym established for 7 years in Phuket. Owner retiring. Tel: 081-8111067.

### STUDIO IN PATONG

Studios with small kitchenette for rent in Soi Nanai 2. Low season offer of 12,500 baht a month all included. Call Tel: 081-5362954. Email for info: petro@phuket.ksc.co.th

### BAR, RESTAURANT &

rooms for lease. 600,000 baht. Rent: 28,000 baht a month, 6 months free. On Nanai Rd, Patong. Call K. Pom for more details. Tel: 085-7911857, 086-9789863.

### DISCOTHEQUE

in Phuket City. Fully furnished and equipped. Staff team. Handles 300 people. For sale: 6 million baht. Tel: 085-887-0717.

### GUESTHOUSE

in Kamala. Small guesthouse, bar, restaurant. 4 rooms and small apartment, beautiful terrace, very clean. 1 minute to beach. Wifi. 5-year lease. 900,000 baht. K. Bob. Tel: 081-266-1851.

### RENT BEAUTY SHOP

Includes 30 wedding dresses, sauna and Jacuzzi. Shop is 80sqm, apartment is 60sqm. Rawai. Call for more details. Tel: 076-288070.

### RENT SHOP, RAWAI

Shop 8mx8m, inside area is 2x8, outside apartment 8x8. Air-conditioned, new, clean, on main road. Call Tel: 089-0813183, 084-4454614.



**TSBA**  
Selling Going Concerns  
**PRIME LOCATION SALON / MASSAGE**  
If you want to buy or sell a business  
Call Kevin 084-7300190.  
Email: kevin@tsba.info  
www.tsba.info

### SPICY DUCK RESTAURANT



for lease. Located on the main road between Tesco & Patong. Tel: 081-4773031.

### BEER BARS

For advice on buying a beer bar in Phuket. Call Kevin at TSBA. Tel: 084-7300190.

### WANIDA MASSAGE

Soi Patong Beach. For sale: 1.5 million baht. Tel: 081-7373004.

### RESTAURANT

for lease in Patong. Popular restaurant/bar in Soi Sansabai. Low rent! For details call Tel: 084-8500375.

### CASH REGISTER

Casio TV -T200, used one week: 11,000 baht. Dahon boat bicycle with waterproof carry bag: 5,000 baht. Artist easel folds into carry bag: 3,000 baht. Call for details at Tel: 085-783-8336.

### RENOVATING

my house. I need to sell my teakwood cabinets with special woodcarving. Very beautiful items which you will not be able to find anymore in the near future. Between 9am and 6pm. Tel: 081-5393668.

### GUESTHOUSE

Beautiful! New guesthouse with everything. 5-minute walk from Kata beach. Priced to sell quickly. New company, construction, makes it easy for foreigner to run and get work permit. Tel: 081-8948446.

### QUICK SALE

wanted. Fitness center for sale. Established, well-equipped and a good customer base. Email for details: fitnessphuket@yahoo.com

### BUSINESS ON WATER

New 6m Aussie alloy boat. Center console. Full Thai survey, 5 pax. Includes tow vehicle, trailer & all licenses. Sell at only 1.2 million baht (boat value). Please contact for more details. Tel: 076-292-746, 081-8922824. Email: makocraft@hotmail.com

## Business Products & Service

### VISA & LEGAL SERVICES



Company registration 2,229 baht; one-year visa 5,999 baht; retirement visa 5,999 baht; work permit 5,999 baht; UK & US visa 16,999 baht. No more visa runs – get a one-year visa for only 5,999 baht. Establish your Thai company today, buy land or start your business for only 2,229 baht! Property title search, sales contract and land registration. Thailand's largest legal service network. Always low prices by our licensed Thai lawyers. Please contact for further information.

Tel: 076-345277.  
Email: info@siam-legal.com  
www.siam-legal.com

### MOTHER & CHILD

International child care center at Nai Harn. Accepting children aged 18 months to 5 years. Tel: 084-7144104.

### SPECIALIZED IN SUPPLYING

installing and maintaining satellite TV and astro cable TV. Only 3,600 baht/year. Sports, movies, music, entertainment. For hotels, condos, apts. House repair or upgrade welcome. Tel: 081-4541159. Email: mb@mpgglobal.net.com For details, see our website at: www.mpsatpv.com

### MASSAGE & SPA

delivery. For men, by men only. Escort to your room or home. Please call for more details. Tel: 084-4413048.

### SAILING TRIPS

Big boat, day or overnight. European and Thai food, shade, fishing, snorkeling, kayaks.

**Good rates.**

**Tel: 081-6771641.**

### CHIROPRACTOR

Dr Richard Cracknell. Tel: 076-330889. For further details, please see our website at: www.chiropractic-phuket.com



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## VISA RUN

- To Penang 4,600 baht
- Tourist 90 days (60+30), non-imm O/B visas
- Leave Sunday night return Tuesday night
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| Patong   | Bangkok Bank  | 22.15  |
| Kathu  | Caltex Gas Station  | 22.30  |
| Phuket Town  | Bangkok Legal   | 22.45  |
| Booking or more information<br>Please contact: K. Ning (08) 10803414, K. Cha (08) 12726858<br>or K. Steve (08) 78947406 office Tel: 076-304072-3 Fax: 076-304074 |   |        |



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### NISSAN NV CAP

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### ISUZU CAB4, 4WD



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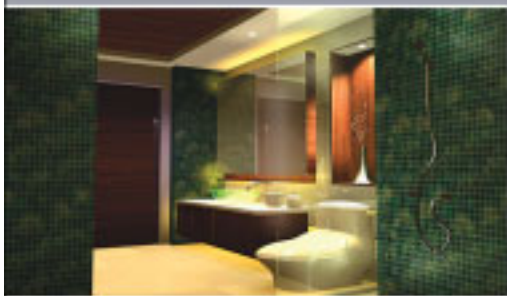
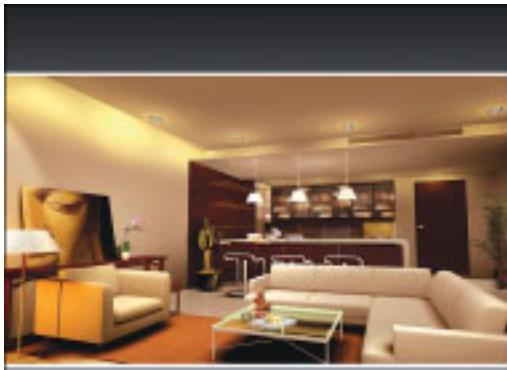
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